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I N D E X.

Com.G.L.O.; Asks remittance of $8,770.00, to establish office of U.S.Surveyor General at Santa Fe, N.M.; also $3,000.00 for incidental expenses---------- 1

Com.G.L.O., Acknowledges commission as U.S.Surveyor General for New Mexico, and returns bond duly executed and approved--- 1

Wm.Carr.G.L.O., requests transfer of money &c.------- 2

Com.G.L.O., requests authority to call upon commanding officer of the nearest military post for an escort when making an examination of the boundary between Mexico &c.------ 2

Com.G.L.O.; requests $400.00 for purchase of [illegible] -- 3

Com.G.L.O., reports proceedings, allegations and drawings of [illegible], [illegible] right of way for intersection of semi-[illegible] line &c.---------- 3

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits statement of expenditures for clerk hire for the last half year ending Dec.31, 1854; asks that they account for incidental expenses not seen at one time &c.--4

David Merriwether, Governor of New Mexico.----------5

Com.G.L.O., Requests remittance of remainder of sum appropriated for salaries of Sur.Gen. & clerks for fiscal year ending June 30, 1855.----------5

Com.G.L.O.; Acknowledges receipt of certain letters, but not box of books; asks whether books sent via Texas or Independence, Mo.---------- 6
(P.S. acknowledges receipt of books at Austin &c.)

Com.G.L.O; Relative to solar compass; advises to send it via Independence, Mo. &c.----------6

Com.G.L.O.; Requests certain Spanish and Mexican Lawbooks-------7

List of said Law Books &c.---------- --7 & 8

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits letter of Jno.W.Garretson with relation to payment of deputy surveyors----------8 & 9

Copy of said letter from Jno.W.Garretson,D.S., to Sur.Gen.------9

Com.G.L.O.; Asks remittance of $15,00.00 of the Approp. for the survey of public lands, and gives reason for asking for sums to be remitted at one time &c.----------10

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits statement of disbursements for incidental expenses from Aug.17,1854 to March 31,1855 &c.----------11

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits duplicate copy of contract entered into with Jno.W.Garretson,D.S., for survey of Base and Principal Meridian; special instructions not ready &c.----------11

.G.L.O; Reports receipt of letter from Jno.W.Garretson,D.S., written in camp, urging necessity of money by August &c.---12

Com.G.L.O.; Acknowledges receipt of new form of bond to be executed by Sur.Gen'l----------12

Com.G.L.O.; Acknowledges receipt of solar compass and standard measure----------13

Com.G.L.O.; Calls attention to letter of March 31, and again urges necessity for a remittance of approp. for year 1855--13

Com.G.L.O.; Relative to quarterly accounts transmitted March 31, 1855, and explains the high price necessary to be paid for articles of furniture &c,----------14

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Com.G.L.O.; Transmits instructions issued to Jno.W.Garretson, D.S., for survey of Base & Meridian Lines----------19

Treas. U.S. Transmits receipt for Treas.Draft No.9565 for $2,964.67----------19

Com.G.L.O.; Relative to $500.00 extra for salary of Sur.Gen. and receipt of draft for only $3,000.00----------19

Com.G.L.O.; Acknowledges receipt of twelve Manuals of Surveying Instructions, blank field note-books and cover; field note-books too small and will have to be remodeled----------21

Hon. R. McClelland, Secy. of the Interior----------21

Com.GL.O.; Transmits statement of incidental expenses from April 1 to June 30, 1855;----------22

Com.G.L.O.; Reports necessity for paying witnesses brought before the Land Court, and asks instructions &c.----------22

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits field notes & account of Jno.W.Garretson, D.S. for survey of 96 miles of Principal Meridian; reports no maps because paper purchased at New Orleans not yet arrived; refers to adoption of whole chain as standard, and fact that error will be corrected and that part of work resurveyed as deputy goes down river &c.----------23

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits quarterly acct. & vouchers for salaries for quarter ending June 30,1855.----------24

Com.G.L.O.; Refers to letter of May 4,1855 from Con. and goes into detail relative to suggestion of retaining per cent on contracts for payment of Examiner; speaks of hardship this plan of action would be to Mr. Garretson &c.----------24

Com.G.L.O.; Refers to letter from Com. dated May 3,1855, relative to 2 per cent commission allowed Sur. Gen. on moneys received by him for sale of public lands &c.----------25

Elisha Whittlesey, Comptroller;Refers to letter from Com. of June 11,1855, and states will correct accounts for 3rd & 4th quarter of 1854 &c.----------26

Samuel Casey, Treasurer, U.S.----------26

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits plats of survey of 96 miles of Principal Meridian executed by Jno.W.Garretson &c.----------27

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Elisha Whittelsey, Comptroller---------- ----------27

Com.G.L.O.; Acknowledges receipt of commissioner's letter of June 22,1855----------28

Com.G.L.O.; Acknowledges Commissioner's letter of June21,1855-28

Com.G.L.O.; Requests authority to let contract for survey of a few townships to embrace the land on and adjacent to Bonito & Rindoso rivers----------28

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Com.G.L.O.; Transmits statement of disbursements for incidental expenses from July 1 to Sept.30,1855--- -- ----------29

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits account for salaries & vouchers for Quar. ending Sept.30,1855.----------30

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits bond as Receiver of Public Moneys for Dist. of New Mexico, $50,000.00----------30

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits tabular statement of clerks, salaries &c.---------- ---------- ----------30

Com.G.L.O.; Refers to letter of July 21,1855;acknowledges receipt of remittance $3,900.00; goes into detail as to why appropriation for fiscal year ending June 30,1856, should have been ~~made~~ remitted by draft forwarded on St. Louis and New Orleans &c.------- ----------31

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits cont.#2, entered into with Jno.W.Garretson and James S.Lawson, 600 miles of the standard correction lines; reports release of latter deputy, with consent of former, from the contract------ ----------32

Com.G.L.O.; Reports necessity for purchase of a mule----------32

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits report of operations of office from December 28, 1854 to Sept.30,1855.----------33

M. Steck, Indian Agent for New Mexico---------- ----------37

I.M.Ramsey, Acting Comptroller,----------38

I.M.Ramsey, Acting Comptroller,---------- ----38

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Com.G.L.O.; Tranmits letter addressed to this office from M. Steck, Indian Agent for N.M. relative to large grant of land made to Membres ApachesIndians &c.----------40

Com.G.L.O.; Acknowledges receipt of letter of Sep.4,1855, relative to summoning of witnesses for the investigation of private land claims, and authorizing survey of townships on Bonita & Ruidoso rivers, near Fort Stanton----------41

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits field notes, plats, and account of Jno.W.Garretson,D.S., for 170 m.,47 chs. & 38 lks. of Prin.Meridian south of Base Line; 18 m. & 3 chs. bdry.line bet.U.S. & Mexico; 45½ miles, 55 chs. & 45 lks. of standard Correction; 72 m. Guide Meridian No.1,bet. Rs. 8 & 9 E.,through Ts. 13 & 14 inc.----------41

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Com.G.L.O.; Acknowledges receipt of letter stating that Sec. of the Interior has been requested to forward draft for $3,900.00----------42

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Com.G.L.O.; Transmits a statement of the Disbursements for Incidental Expenses & vouchers from Oct.1, to December 31, 1855----------43

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Com.G.L.O.; Acknowledges receipt of letter of Dec.17,1855, to notify deputy surveyors that no assignment of amounts due them will be recognized after April 1,1856----------44

Com.G.L.O.; Acknowledges receipt of letter of Nov.30,1855, enclosing correspondence of Jas.Tilton,Sur.Gen.of Washington, and authorizing this office to employ person to examine surveys &c.----------45

Com.G.L.O.; Acknowledges receipt of letter of Dec.13,1855------45

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Com.G.L.O.; Transmits quarterly acct. & vouchers for salary quarter ending March 31, 1856----------46

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits statement of disbursements for incidental expenses quarter ending March 31,1856----------46

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits application of Jas.S.Lawson,to be released from contract for sur.of 600 miles of standard lines in this Territory &c.----------47

Com.G.L.O.; Relative to stone vault, necessity for same &c.----47

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits maps & acct. of Jno.W.Garretson for survey of 48 miles of Guide Meridian No.2 bet.Rs. 19 & 20 E. in Ts. 9 to 16 N.,---------- ---------- ----------48

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Com.G.L.O.; Transmits contract No.3, with Jno.W.Garretson, for survey of country on and near the Conchos, also special instructions issued to deputy; explains why this part of country surveyed prior to the Bonito &c.----------50

Com.G.L.O.; States advisability of transmitting certified copies of papers owned by the Indians as title to their land &c., transmits letter from Gen.Mayers relative to same subject----------50

Com.G.L.O.; Acknowledges receipt of letter of April 11,1856, asking for synopsis of annual report &c.----------51

Com.G.L.O.; Refers to letter of Dec.13,1855,disallowing acct. for the costs of first session of the Land Court in this office &c.----------52

Com.G.L.O.; Again calls attention to necessity for stone vault and urges approp. of $1,000.00 for same &c.----------54

Com.G.L.O.; Requests remittance to pay salaries of clerks for Quarter ending Sep.30,1856, and one-half of approp. for incidental expenses, and states reason for same--------55

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Com.G.L.O.; Requests authority to let contract for survey into townships of the valley of the Rio Grande----------59

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits maps,field notes & acct.of Jno.W. Garretson,D.S., under cont.#2,dated April 3,1865----------60

Com.G.L.O.; Reports that twp.maps forwarded found incorrect & requests new supply----------60

Com.G.L.O.; Acknowledges circular of Sec. of the Interior relative to letting contracts to relatives, members of immediate family &c.----------61

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits packages marked 1,2 & 3, containing copy of annual report &c.----------61

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Samuel Casey, Treas. U. S.----------68

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Com.G.L.O.; Transmits statement of disbursements for incidental expenses & vouchers for Qr.ending Dec.31,1856----------69

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits map of survey of line bet.Ts.13 & 14 N., Rs. 26-27-29 & 30 E. & Range lines in T.13 N.,bet.Rs.25 & 26 E. &c., stated in letter of Oct.15,1856 as not received, sur. by Jno.W.Garretson,cont.dated Apr.3,1856---70

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Com.G.L.O.; Transmits cont. #4, Jno.W.Garretson,D.S.----------71

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Com.G.L.O.; Reports necessity for paying a discount of 5 per cent on draft No.4039 for $1500.00, and asks for instructions in premises &c.----------75

Samuel Casey,
Treas. U.S; Acknowledges receipt of Treasury draft:-

No.4039,	on	Treas.	Warrant	No.3652	for	$1500.00	
" 4040	"	"	"	"	"	750.00	
" 4041	"	"	"	"	"	525.00	
" 4042	"	"	"	"	"	500.00	
" 4043	"	"	"	"	"	450.00	
" 4044	"	"	"	"	"	450,00	
" 4045	"	"	"	"	"	450,00	----------75

Com.G.L.O.; Returns contract & bond of Jno.W.Garretson,D.S. duly corrected in compliance with letter of Feb.12,1857---76

Major W. A. Nichols----------77

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Com.G.L.O.; Transmits supplemental acct. of Jno.W.Garretson, D.S., for per centage retained from his cont.dated April 3, 1856, together with explanatory letter from A.P.Wilber, Examiner of Surveys----------78

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Com.G.L.O.; Transmits account current & vouchers for salaries for quarter ending June 30, 1857----------81

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Com.G.L.O.; Requests remittance of sum appropriated for incidental expenses & gives reason for requesting the whole sum at once &c.----------83

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Com.G.L.O.; Transmits "Return of Property" from Aug.17,1854 to June 30,1857---- ----------83

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Com.G.L.O.; Transmits list of employes and requests copy of Biennial Register when printed----------84

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Com.G.L.O.; Reports delay of Annual report &c. until mail which leaves on Sep. 15,1857, on account of indisposition of chief clerk----------86

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits contract No. 5, entered into with Jno.W.Garretson,D.S., for public surveys in that part of country known as the Valles, N.W. of Sata Fe, west of the Rio Grande----------86

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Com.G.L.O.; Transmits Annual Report contained in 7 packages marked 1 to 7 inclusive----------97

Com.G.L.O.; Requests that, if sketch map accompanying annual report be lithographed, 30 copies be sent to this office--97

Com.G.L.O.; Requests that estimates now forwarded with annual report be used instead of ones transmitted on Sep.15/57---98

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R. P. Kelley, Deputy Surveyor----------99

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Com.G.L.O.; Requests that Com. estimate to Congress at next session sum of $1500.00 to cover deficiencies in approp. for fuel, office rent &c.----------100

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Com.G.L.O.; Requests balance of approp. for rent of office &c. amounting to $1500.00----------101

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James A. Tivy, Deputy Surveyor,---------- ------ ----------102

Dr. M. Steck, Fort Thorn, N.M.,----------102

Com.G.L.O.; Refers to secs. 9 & 16, T. 18 N., R. 20 E.,& calls attention to law of this Territory approved Sep. 9, 1850, setting aside sec. 16 & 36 for school purposes--103

Com.G.L.O.; Reports necessity for keeping a watch dog and asks instructions relative to expense &c.----------103

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits plats of T. 13 N., Rs. 27-29 & 30 E., corrected in accordance with letter of April 16,1857-----104

William Drew, Examiner of Surveys------- ----------105

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Com.G.L.O.; Transmits account, field notes, plat & report of A.P.Wilber, Examiner of surveys, on survey of 107 m., 74 chs. & 40 lks. of exterior twp. lines in valley of Rio Grande, executed by R.P.Kelley,D.S.,cont.7----------107

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Com.G.L.O.; Transmits account & vouchers for incidental expenses for quarter ending Dec.31,1857----------112

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Com.G.L.O.; Refers to accounts for 3rd quarter of 1857 and amounts disallowed and explains &c.----------113

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List of grants and Pueblos numbered and lettered------ -------115

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R. P Kelley, D.S.------- ----------119

Com.G.L.O.; Recommends that Ts. 13 N., Rs. 26-27-29 & 30,E., T. 18 N., R. 20 E.,Frac.T. 18 S., R. 4 W., frac.T. 19 S., R. 3 W., frac. T. 19 N., Rs. 4 & 5 E., & frac. T. 20 N., Rs. 3,4 & 5 E., plats of which have been approved and transmitted be offered for sale and made subject to entry &c.------ ----------120

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits plat, field notes & account of Deputy J.W.Garretson, survey of 215 m., 34 chs. & 99 lks. of exterior twp. boundaries subdivision & meander lines in the Valles & vicinity; cannot transmit report of Examiner at present &c.-------- ---------- ----------120

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Com.G.L.O.; Requests remittance for salaries for quarter ending June 30, 1858----------122

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits account and vouchers for salaries for quarter ending March 31,1858------- ----------122

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits account and vouchers for incidental expenses for quarter ending March 31,1858----------123

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits cont. # 9,dated Jan.26,1858, with J.W.Garretson and J.A.Tivy, deputy surveyors for survey of 22 entire townships and 20 frac. townships in valley of the Rio Grande,---- ----------123

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits Cont. #11, dated March 13,1858, with R.E.Clements,D.S., for survey of48 miles of Stand.Correction Lines, 646 miles of exterior Twp.Boundaries &c.-----124

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits cont. 12,dated April 10,1858, with R.P. Kelley, D.S., for survey of 350miles of Stand.Cor. and exterior Twp. Boundaries in valley of Rio Grande,--------124

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits account of A.P.Wilbar,D.S., together with field notes & approved plats,-accompanied with acct. & report of Examiner, for subdivisions set forth in cont. dated March 3, 1858----------125

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits acct. of R.P.Kelley,D.S.,field notes, approved plats; report & acct. of Examiner, 317 m., 12 chs. & 45 lks. Stand. Cor. lines &c., cont.dated Oct. 5, 1857;----------125

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Com.G.L.O.; Relative to reserve for military purposes at Ft. Thorn, requested by Brig.Gen. John Garland &c.----------127

Com.G.L.O. Transmits copy of instructions issued to J.F. Battaille, Examiner of Surveys &c.---------- ----------127

J. F. Battaille, Examiner of Surveys, Copy of Instructions----128

Capt. L. C. Easton, Santa Fe, N.M.----------130

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits account, field notes &c. of survey of R. F. Clements, under cont. dated March 13,1858----------130

Com.G.L.O.; Returns copy of field notes of R.E.Clements with necessary blanks and signatures filled as required-------130

Com.G.L.O.; Acknowledges receipt of seven dozen pencils,------131

Com.G.L.O.; Relative to letter transmitted to this office written by Com. to Hon. M.A.Otero, relative to funds &c.-131

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Com.G.L.O.; Transmits Return of Property----------134

Com.G.L.O.; Reports trip to valley of the Canadian & vicinity & expense of same &c.----------134

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Com.G.L.O.; Transmits account of R.P.Kelley,D.S., amounting to $2,566.81, Report of Examiner will follow----------135

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Com.G.L.O.; Acknowledges of circular letter relative to paying clerks & draftsmen from Treas.Dept.direct at per annum rates----------137

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits account & report of I.F. Battaile, Examiner of Surveys upon surveys executed by R.P.Kelley, D.S., under cont. dated April 10,1858----------138

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Com.G.L.O.; Transmits bond as Surveyor General as per letter of July 1, 1857----------139

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Com.G.L.O.; Reports error discovered in maps accompanying Report; forwards two and holds one to be corrected before it is lithographed &c.----------432

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Com.G.L.O.; Transmits copy of application and certificate of location No. 3 of private land claim confirmed to heirs of L.M.C.de Baca, ----------461

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Com.G.L.O.; Acknowledges receipt of 12th Vol. Stat. at Large,--462

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Com.G.L.O.; Transmits REPORT in triplicate, and one copy of map, made by Jno.Clark, late draftsman in office----------463

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Com.G.L.O.; Transmits salary and expense accounts for quarters ending June 30 and September 30, 1863,----------467

Com.G.L.O.; Reports improbability of letting contracts for surveying during season on account of hostilities with Indians &c.; Mr. Means' work remains suspended &c.--------468

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Com.G.L.O.;Transmits account and vouchers for sundry expenses-469

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Com.G.L.O.; Transmits account for quarter ending Dec.31,1863, also account of David I. Miller and Jno.B.Lamy----------476

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits Semi-Annual Property Return for half year ending December 31, 1863----------476

Com.G.L.O.; Requests draft for salary for quarter ending December 31, 1863----------477

Com.G.L.O.; Acknowledges letter granting leave of absence for 4 months; Mr. Miller will take charge of office until my return; su ggests re-instatement of Mr . Miller as Translator &c.----------477

Com.G.L.O.; Reports receipt of $27.00 and deposit of same with Receiver to credit of approp. for rent &c.----------478

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Com.G.L.O.; Reports, in response to letter of July 18,1863, that there is no evidence in this office that Baca Location No. 3 contains any mineral or that it is occupied,----------479

Com.G.L.O.; Reports receipt of application by heirs of Baca to land set aside by President for Apache and Navajo Indians, heirs now willing to withdraw application, &c.,----------480

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits approved account of D.JMiller, for services from Jan.18 to March 9,1864, rate$600.00 per annum-480

Com.G.L.O.; Submits estimates for appropriations for office of Surveyor General for fiscal year ending June 30,1866--481

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits accounts for incidental expenses in office during quarter ending June 30,1864----------481

Com.G.L.O.; Acknowledges receipt of telegram relative to annexation of Arizona to surveying District, and appropriation allowed for this district; cannot make surveys during present season on account of Indians; requests permission to make preliminary examinations &c.,----------482

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Com.G.L.O.; Transmits "Property Return" for half year ending June 30, 1864,----------484

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Com.G.L.O.; Transmits account with vouchers for necessary expenses in office during quarter ending Sept.30,1864; also accounts of D.J Miller for services & Jno.B.Lamy for rent-485

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Com.G.L.O.; Refers to act of June 11,1864, authorizing relocation of Baca Location No. 3; transmits application requesting relocation of Baca Location No. 5 &c.----------486

Com.G.L.O.; Acknowledges receipt of letter authorizing Sur.Gen. to make preliminary examinations through Ter.---487

Com.G.L.O.; Reports sale of paper press to Chas. Blooman,Esq., for $23.00; transmits cert. of deposit; requests acknowledgment of former certificate of deposit for $27.00-----487

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits map designating thereon the position of Prescott and Fort Whipple, Ariz., requests copies of same for use of this office,----------488

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Com.G.L.O.; Reports that on Jan.18,1862 papers relating to claim of Pablo Montoya sent to Sur.Gen. of Colo.; since discovered that land is situated on Canadian river in this Territory; have applied for return of papers,----------489

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits approved accounts for salary & incidental expenses in this office during the quarter ending Dec. 31,1864,----------490

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits Semi-Annual "Property Return"----------490

Com.G.L.O.; Reports not yet able to start on tour through western part of Territory; reports receipt of letter from J.N.Goodwin, Governor of Arizona, relative to surveying in that part &c.,----------490

Com.G.L.O.; Requests draft for Sur.Gen.Salary for quarter ending Dec. 31, 1864,----------491

Com.G.L.O.; Reports intended departure on Jan.7,1865 to make tour through western part of Territory; D.JMiller will take charge of office &c.,----------492

Com.G.L.O.; Letter dated Tubac,Ariz, March 13,1865; relative to trip; includes statement respecting Mines of Arizona, by W. Claude Jones of Tubac, Ariz., & copy of statement of Gregory P. Harte, mines in vicinity of Tuscon, ----------492

Com.G.L.O.; Reports arrival in Santa Fe from Arizona on May 19, 1865; will forward report of reconnoisance from Tubac; asks relative to draft for quarters salary requested in letter from Tubac &c.,----------498

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits accounts and vouchers for expenses in office for quarter ending March 31, 1865,----------499

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits account of travelling expenses incurred and paid by Surveyor General during recent trip, ---------499

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits account of Mr. Miller as clerk in this office during current quarter up to May 31,1865; resumed duties as translator on 1st of Junr,----------500

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Com.G.L.O.; Relative to necessity for surveying the Navajo Indian Reservation at Bosque Redondo; whether any portion of appropriation for survey of Indian lands applicable for such purpose; encloses plan with estimated cost,-----554

Com.G.L.O.; Transmits copy of oath of N.F.Thomas, omitted in transcript of field notes of survey of San Pedro grant, to which it belongs,----------555

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Com.G.L.O.; Reports deposit with designated Depositary in Santa Fe, N.M., the sum of $703.91, due W.W. Griffin,D.S., for survey of San Pedro & Cañon del Agua grants, ----------557

Com.G.L.O.; Acknowledges receipt of Dept.Letter dated November 13, 1866, refusing to expend more than $10,000 in N,M. for public surveys; encloses sketch of proposed surveys and estimate, amounting to $28,535.30,----------557

S. R. Watrous, Barclay's Fort, N.M.,----------559

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Brevt. Maj.Gen.James H. Carleton, ----------561

Isaac C. Stuck, D.S., ----------562

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Com.G.L.O.; Transmits approved accounts for salaries and incidental expenses for quarter ending December 31, 1866,--565

E N D.

* *

Washington City
August 9th 1854

Sir,

I learn from a Gentleman who is well informed on the subject, that it takes usually about four months to get an answer to a letter written from New York to Santa Fe, therefore in view of that state of the case; and to enable me to carry into effect the act of Congress of the 22nd July, establishing the Office of Surveyor General in New Mexico, and to pay the Salaries of the Surveyor General and his Clerks when they shall become due; I respectfully ask a remittance of ($3750.) three thousand seven hundred & fifty dollars of the sum appropriated for that purpose; and also ($3000.) three thousand dollars appropriated for incidental expenses of said Office.

Very Respectfully &c
Wm Pelham
Surv. Genl. New Mexico

John Wilson Esqr.
Commissioner of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City.

Washington City
Augt. 10th 1854

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th inst. enclosing my Commission as Surveyor General of the public lands in New Mexico, and also a blank bond to be executed for the faithful performance of my duties as Surveyor General.

The Bond has been executed; approved by the District Attorney for New Mexico, and is herewith returned.

I am Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt
Wm Pelham
Surveyor of the Public lands in New Mexico

John Wilson Esqr
Commissioner of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City

Washington City
Augt 11th 1854

Sir,

I have been informed by Gentlemen, residents of New Mexico, that to keep money and valuable papers in that Country, it is indispensibly necessary to have a good Iron Safe: therefore I ask that one be furnished the Surveyor General's Office at Santa Fe.

Very Respectfully
your Obt Servt
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of New Mexico

John Wilson Esqr
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City

Washington City D.C.
Augt 19th 1854

Sir,

Having seen the instructions being prepared at the General Land Office for the government of the Surveyor Genral of New Mexico, I perceive it is made his duty to make an examination of the Country preparatory to the execution of the public Surveys: Permit me to call your attention to the fact, that the Surveyor General, in the performance of that duty, will have to traverse a Country infested by bands of roving hostile Indians, which would render it unsafe to life and property, if not impossible for a small surveying party to pass. In view of that State of the case I most respectfully ask to be authorized to call upon the Commander of the nearest Military Post for a suitable escort for the protection of the party

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt
Wm Pelham
Surveyor of the Public Lands in New Mexico

John Wilson Esqr
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City

Washington City D.C.
Augt. 18th 1854

Sir,

Your letter of the 17th inst. is before me, authorizing the purchase of an Iron fire proof safe for the use of the Surveyor's Office at New Mexico. In relation to the subject I will remark, that the funds of the U.S. which have been placed in my hands, are for specific objects, and it is believed are not greater in amount than will be required for those objects, therefore I respectfully ask a remittance of ($400.) four hundred dollars be made to me at Austin Texas in a draft upon New York for the purpose of purchasing and transporting to New Mexico said safe

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt
Wm Pelham
Surveyor of the Public Lands in New Mexico

John Wilson Esqr
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City

Near El Paso, Del Norte
Dec. 4th 1854

Sir,

I have arrived near my District in safety, and shall in a few days commence a reconnoisance of the Valley of the Rio Grande Del Norte, for the purpose of selecting a suitable point for the intersection of the Meredean with the Base line.

I came through the Indian Country in Texas in company with the Boundary Commission, consequently had ample protection. But the party with the United States Mail, which preceded us, was not so fortunate. A large party of Indians attacked them at "dead Mans hole," and the engagement continued for six or seven hours, during which it is believed several Indians were killed by Mr Skillman, but at so great a distance, that the dead bodies were carried off by their comrades. The Mail party experienced no loss except two or three Mules killed, and a Mexican wounded.

Very Respectfully
Your most obt. Servt
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of New Mexico

John Wilson Esqr
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office

Surveyor's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
Dec. 31st 1854

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to transmit my salary account and Vouchers for Clerk hire, for fractional half year ending 31st Dec. 1854.

It is proper here to state that I purchased the supplies and instruments for the Surveyor's Office principally at Washington, Cincinnati & New Orleans. I took passage upon Steamship Chas. Morgan from New Orleans to Port Lavaca Texas and shipped my articles upon the same Vessel. The depth of Water not being sufficient in Matagorda Bay for the Morgan to pass up to Port Lavaca, the Captain had his freight put upon two small Vessels for the purpose of being carried up. After having sailed two miles, they stopped at Indianola to remain for the night, but before day (I believe) on the 16th Septr. a Storm occured and continued some two days, doing much damage to houses, wharfs and shipping on the Bay, and wrecked the Vessels having the Chas. Morgan's freight. The Iron Safe and boxes containing the articles I had purchased for the Surveyor's Office were recovered, in a damaged state, and some of the paper so much damaged as to be useless.

To enable my Agent to demand damages of the freighters, it became necessary that he should have the Bills to which the Vouchers are appended. I directed Mr Forbes the Agent to forward them to me at this place at as early a day as practicable, after having settled the difficulty with the Company, but as yet I have not received them, therefore I am unable to report an account for incidental expenses at this time, but will do so at the close of the 1st qr of 1855, or on the receipt of the Vouchers referred to.

Very Respectfully
your Obt. Servt.
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of New Mexico

John Wilson Esqr
Comr. of the Genl Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor's Office
Santa Fe, N. Mexico
Sept. 29th 1854

To His Excellency,
David Meriwether, Governor of New Mexico.

Sir,

Under instructions from the Secretary of the Interior, through the Commissioner of the General Land Office, under date of the 21st of August last, I am instructed to call on you, for such of the Archives as relate to grants of land by the former Authorities of the Country.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Surveyor's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
January 1st 1855

Sir,

In as much as it requires full three months to forward a letter and receive an answer between Washington City and this place, I find it necessary to ask a remittance of the remainder of the sum appropriated for the payment of the Salaries of the Surveyor General and the Clerks in his Office for the fiscal year ending 30th June 1855.

Very Respectfully
your Obt. Servt.
Wm Pelham
Surv. Genl. of N.M.

John Wilson Esqr
Comr. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
January 26th 1855

Sir,

Your letter of instructions of the 26th & 28th of August in relation to surveying the Meridian and Base lines, and donation claims; and your letters of the 9th & 16th of Sept. in relation to books, forms &c. were received before leaving Austin, Texas. The blanks and forms were also received, but not the box of books. You will please inform this Office to what point they were directed, and whether sent via Texas or Independence, Mo.

Your letter of instructions on the subject of private land claims of the 21st August last, addressed to me at this place has also been received.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor of the public lands in
New Mexico

John Wilson Esq
Commissioner of the Gen. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

P. S. Since the within letter was written and recorded the Southern Mail has arrived, by which I learn the box referred to the letter has been received at Austin and forwarded to San Antonio in order to be sent up with the other freight designed for this Office.

W. P.

Surveyor's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
January 29th 1855

Sir,

Your letter of the 21st Nov. last was received on the 24th inst. and in reply I will remark that it is fortunate for this Office that you detained the Solar Compass.

I left San Antonio as stated in my letter of the 25th October, and knew nothing of the despatch until the receipt of your letter above alluded to.

You will please have the Compass carefully packed, and forwarded by express to Independence, Mo. to the care of Messrs Hockaday & Hall, with instructions to forward it by the first Mail wagon that will leave after they receive it.

I requested Mr. Durham, the Post Master at Austin, when I left to forward to Santa Fe, all the Mail Matter that might be

received at his office addressed to me, and I presume he so construed this instruction as giving him authority to act as he did in regard to the Compass. It is better however that you did not act on his advice, as it is preferable to send it via Independence.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor of the public Lands in
New Mexico

John Wilson Esqr
Commissioner of the Gen. Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
February 27th 1855

Sir,

In order to settle and determine the several claims which may be presented to this Office for settlement, it becomes necessary to refer to several Spanish & Mexican law books, which cannot be purchased in this Territory. I therefore enclose to you a list of such books as are required for the use of this office, and request you to cause them to be purchased and forwarded either by Adams Express or franked by mail, in order that they may reach here at as early a day as possible

Very Respectfully
I am Sir
Your Obdt Servt
Wm Pelham
Surveyor of the pub. Lands in N. Mexico

John Wilson Esqr
Commissioner of the Gen. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

List of Spanish and Mexican Law Books required for the use of the Land Office in New Mexico

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Diccionario de la Academia Española
Ordenanzas de Minería Mexico 1846
Sala Hispano-Mejicana Paris 1844
Escriche, Diccionario de Legislacion, Published in Mexico
Corona Mexicana Rev de España Madrid
Febrero Mexicano, revised by A. de la Peña Mexico 1844

Novissima Recopilacion de las Leyes de España, Madrid.
Manual del Alcalde, Madrid & Mexico.
Solorzano, Política Indiana.
Bibliotecas de Legislacion Ultramarina by J. & G. Zamora & Coronado
Madrid 1844.
Colecion de Decretos & ordenes de la Corte de España, Mexico 1829
Ordenanzas de Tierras & Aguas, Galvez, Mexico 1849
Colecion de Decretos from 1821 esp. Mexico.
Pandectas Hispano Mexicanas, Mexico 1839
Pedro Murillo de Lara, Ultimas ordenanzas & Instrumentos
Lanz, Neuman & Jarrett, Spanish Pronouncing Vocabulary
by Velasquez Appleton &c
United States Land Law in California, Oregon, Texas &c Phil 1839
Las Siete Partidas (Translation) by L. Moreau Lislet and
Henry Carleton. N Orleans 1820
Instituciones de la Lei Civil de España by Don Manuel Ayzaguirre
Arrilar de Asso and Don Miguel Manuel Rodriguez.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
March 30th 1855.

Sir:

Enclosed I send you a note of John N. Garretson Esq. on the subject of the payment of Deputy Surveyors in New Mexico. The inconveniencies of which he complains, do exist. The Governor of this Territory is building a State House and penitentiary, expending seventy thousand Dollars; Major Emory is expending One hundred and sixty eight thousand dollars, on the Boundary Commission, the Army expenditures and the Civil Officers in New Mexico, all of whom have drafts in the market, amounting perhaps, in the aggregate, to over a million of dollars per annum. The currency consists principally in American Silver dollars, which bear a premium over gold of six per cent at present, and which in disbursements by public officers can only be accepted at par, consequently it is very difficult to convert drafts of the Government into such funds as will answer for disbursements, without loss. Indeed the money is not in the country sufficient to pay these drafts.

Mr Garretson urges that after having surveyed a contract of twelve months, it will require some two months to examine the notes, compute the areas, and construct the maps for transmission to Washington, return from which cannot be made in a less time than four months, then the drafts have to be sent or carried to

St Louis or New Orleans to be cashed, which will require at least three months more, which will make an aggregate of twenty or more months before a Deputy Surveyor can realize a cent for his contract of Surveying. Surveyors are generally poor men otherwise they would not risk their lives among the hostile savages, endure the toils and privations incident to a campaign in this Country, for the consideration stipulated in the contract. The expenses consequent upon surveying in this country are very large, which have to be paid as they occur by the Deputy Surveyors, and nine times out of ten before they can receive a cent from the Government, their contract amount will have been absorbed by Brokers to whom they are compelled to apply for means to carry on their work at a ruinous sacrifice. The only remedy they can expect, is, that the Government will have the money on the ground, and pay them when their work has been completed, and I hope such means may be devised as will insure that end.

The present system of adjustments and payment of the accounts of the Deputy Surveyors no doubt answers well for the other districts of the United States, they being located in commercial communities, but in this district in consequence of its isolation it operates oppressively and ruinously upon the Deputy Surveyors, and I hope and believe from the uniform justice with which the present able and efficient Commissioner of the General Land Office has always received the claims of those who have toiled for a support for themselves and families, he will consider the case of the Deputy Surveyors of New Mexico and do them justice.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

John Wilson Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Santa Fé New Mexico
March 20th 1855.

Sir: Having tried to get Cash for some drafts which I drew for the fiscal year and finding it impossible to do so owing to the scarcity of money and the excessive amount of drafts thrown on the market in this Country I have with regret yet to have some other arrangement made with the Department at Washington City for paying me for Surveying in this Territory, than by drafts as it will be impossible to get money for drafts without submitting to great loss.

Respectfully Yours
John W. Garretson
Deputy Surveyor

Wm Pelham Esq
Surveyor General
Santa Fé

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico,
March 31st 1855.

Sir:

In order that I may be prepared to make regular reports at the close of each quarter, I most respectfully request the remittance of the sum appropriated for compensation of the Surveyor General and his Clerks, and also the sum appropriated for incidental expenses of the office, for the fiscal year ending 30th June 1856.

My letter of the 1st January asking a remittance of the remaining sum appropriated for salaries of Surveyor General and his Clerks for the fiscal year ending 30th June next, does not embrace an amount sufficient to cover the expenses of Clerks by an amount of two thousand dollars, which sum is asked to be made up from the forty thousand dollars appropriated for clerks, to be apportioned according to the exigencies of the public service. There is a mass of business in this office, which requires much labour to perform, and this is such a case, it is believed, as was intended to be provided for by the Act making the appropriation.

The object in asking the above sums to be remitted at one time is to save expense by having an opportunity of sending for the money by some officer of the Army who are frequently passing between the States and this Territory having safe escorts with them.

Mr Carleton, in a conversation, desired me to make application for a remittance to cover the compensation for the survey of the Base and Meridian lines. If the Commissioner of the General Land Office shall think proper to make a change in the mode of adjusting the accounts of the Deputy Surveyors of New Mexico, as asked by Mr Carleton (which I think is but just to the Deputies) and shall resume the old system, I can have the plats constructed and transmitted at the time the accounts are paid, which will prevent delays, and which were so objectionable formerly. If the change be made, I will endeavour to so conduct the office, as to give as little trouble as possible. In view of the probability of the change, in compliance with the request of Mr Carleton I ask a remittance of Fifteen thousand dollars of the appropriation for the survey of the public lands in New Mexico. Drafts upon New York and New Orleans, in equal sums, are preferable.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

John Wilson Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
March 31st 1855

Sir:

Herewith you will please receive a statement of the disbursements for incidental expenses of the office and vouchers from the 17th August 1854 to the 31st March 1855 inclusive.

Not having received the remittance to pay off the Clerks in the office I have not forwarded the quarterly account for the quarter ending 31st March 1855 but will do so as soon as the remittance is received.

John Wilson Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
April 1st 1855

Sir:

Herewith enclosed you will please receive a duplicate of the contract entered into with John M. Garretson Esq for the Survey of the Base and Principal Meridian as a basis for the survey of the public lands in New Mexico. Mr. Garretson is a Surveyor of acknowledged ability, energy and experience, and is a gentleman of respectability and integrity. He has prepared his outfit and left here on the 26th inst. for the mouth of the Puerco for the purpose of commencing operations.

The special instructions given to Mr. Garretson for his government in the execution of his surveys have not been copied and prepared for transmission to Washington in time for the present mail, but will by the next.

Do John Wilson Esq
Commissioner of Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Surveyor's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
April 20th 1855

Sir,

A few days since I received a letter from John N. Garretson Esq. dated at his camp on the Rio Grande requesting me to urge upon the Commissioner of the General Land Office the necessity of having money here by the first of August, at which time he expects to make a return of the Survey of the Meridian line, and says the means which he brought with him, and the drafts which he expects by the next mail for surveying executed in Arkansas will have been expended. Unless the Government will pay him promptly, he fears he will be compelled to suspend operations until the arrival of such aid, in consequence of the very heavy expenses attending a surveying expedition in this County, and more particularly such as is embraced in his contract. He states that a suspension at that time will be the more regretted, as the warm season is the most favorable for surveying in the mountainous regions. I will remark that I know the difficulties do exist of which he speaks, and hope that all the facilities, practicable with a due regard to the public interest, will be extended by the Department to the Surveyors of this far distant County. I can but repeat that a departure from the policy now practised, compensating the Deputy Surveyors in the other surveying districts, is necessary in New Mexico.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

John Wilson Esq
Commissioner of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
April 25th 1855

Sir,

Your letter of the 19th Febr. enclosing a form of special Bond to be executed by me is received. The bond will be executed and forwarded in due time.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

John Wilson Esq
Commissioner of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
April 25th 1855

Sir,

I received on the 23rd inst per the Mail wagon from Independence, Mo the Solar Compass and Standard measures designed for this office in good order.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico.

John Wilson Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
April 26th 1855

Sir,

The great extent of uninhabited country which intervenes between New Mexico and the Market where supplies for the Surveyor's Office are required to be obtained, renders it very difficult, if not impracticable to procure the transportation of freight over the plains after the spring or early summer trains have left Independence, Mo. The animals used are required to subsist upon the grass, consequently the season at which the grass is the best is selected by the freighters to make the long and toilsome journey. Freight which arrives at Independence after the freighting season, is destined to remain there until the grass has grown in the following season. In view of these facts, I hope I will be excused for again calling your attention to the subject of a remittance of the sum appropriated for incidental expenses of this Office for the year 1855, as requested in my letter of the 7th March, as a part of said appropriation is designed to be used in the purchase of supplies for this Office in the eastern market.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

John Wilson Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
April 26th 1855

Sir,

On the 31st March I enclosed to you the quarterly accounts for incidental expenses for this Office from the 1st of August 1854 to the 31st March 1855 inclusive. As some of the articles may appear high and extravagant, I have thought it advisable to write a few lines in explanation. Furniture as well as every thing else is remarkably high in this Country, and it is impossible to procure any thing like decent furniture without paying enormous prices for it; and it is necessary to procure the best the country affords for the use of the office in order to command the respect of the Mexican population, as they are governed in a great measure by appearances.

In Voucher No. 1 you will find the article of Carpet, which you may think unnecessary. The houses have dirt floors and it is necessary that they should be carpeted in order that they may be comfortable and suitable for habitation. The Mexican population almost universally have carpets on their floors, and it certainly would not be expected that an office of the United States would be furnished more indifferently than the houses of the poorer classes of Mexicans. The canvass for the walls was also necessary for the protection of the documents and papers of the office from dirt as the houses are all built of mud. The chairs in Voucher No. 5 were procured at as small a price as possible and are not better than are required for the office, and not as good as would be considered necessary in the States; those costing two 50/100 dollars a piece are made of nothing but common pine plank, the six costing forty dollars have cane seats and are such as would cost from twelve to fifteen dollars per dozen in the States; the Mahogany chairs, sofa and table were purchased for the Court room and were the only kind of furniture that I could find in the Country at any price suitable for it. We are differently situated from those in the States, there they can procure such things as they may desire and think suitable, here we have to take such things as we can find, whether suitable or not, and do the best we can with them.

As regards the rent of house, Voucher No. 9, I have only to say that I examined all the houses that I could hear of for rent and could find none that was suitable for an office at a less price, and for your satisfaction, will refer you to the statement of Mr. Whiting, an old

citizens of this country.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

John Wilson Esq
Commissioner of Genl. Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico
April 28th. 1855

Sir,

Your letter of the 19th. February last, calling on me to make satisfactory explanation with regard to my salary account and those of the Clerks employed in this Office, is at hand. I shall proceed at once to show the grounds, in view of the authority vested in me as Surveyor General of New Mexico, upon which I have disbursed the public funds placed in my hands, which I doubt not will be satisfactory to your sense of justice and propriety.

By the act of 22d. July 1854, the salary of the Surveyor General for New Mexico is fixed at three thousand dollars; the same act also refers to his power, authority &c. and to allowance for clerk hire - all of which are to be the same as what is allowed by law to the Surveyor General of Oregon. The first section of the above act necessarily refers back to the act of September 27. 1850, creating the Office of Surveyor General for Oregon U. S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 9. p. 496. Section 2 of this act provides that "there shall be and hereby is appropriated the sum of four thousand dollars," or as much thereof as is necessary, for clerk hire in his Office". The appropriation act of August 4th. 1854, subsequent to the two acts first referred to, allows the Surveyor General of Oregon and New Mexico seven thousand five hundred dollars each, for the present fiscal year, for their salaries and clerk hire. Thus, by applying the law of 27th September in reference to the pay of my Clerks, it will leave a residue of three thousand five hundred dollars in my hands - which I have appropriated as my salary, being under the impression that a subsequent statute removes the obligations of a prior one in many respects. For this principle of law, the authority is undoubted. The Commonwealth vs Comby, 1 Ashmead 179. An affirmative statute is a repeal by implication of a previous affirmative statute, so far as it is contrary thereto. This principle of law I have followed in justice to myself, and cheerfully

submit the question for your consideration.

The duties incumbent on the Surveyor General of New Mexico—I mean the duties proper of his office—are equal in every respect to those of the Surveyor General of Oregon; and, in addition, he is constituted by the act approved July 22. 1854, a commissioner to investigate, and give his decision on all private land claims granted under Spanish and Mexican authority prior to the treaty of 1848 between the United States and Mexico. The labor and responsibility thus augmented in this office is another reason why I have given the construction which I have to the preceding acts of Congress just cited. As the act of 22nd July 1854, confers on the Surveyor General of New Mexico not only the same duties, powers and authority as on the Surveyor General of Oregon, but creates him Commissioner, Register and Receiver, and Recorder of the Statistics of the Pueblo Villages; and having learned from you personally that the Surveyor General of Oregon received $3500. per annum, I conceived that I was fully justified in charging that amount for my salary which remains suspended in your office.

The suspension of the Salaries of the Clerks is a matter of great concern to me, and a source of much disappointment and mortification to them. The grounds upon which I appointed and paid my subordinates are the authority which I professed as Surveyor General to do so, and the necessity which I conceived the public service required, to appoint gentlemen of known character and respectability, upon whom I could repose the most implicit confidence; and to obtain such, with due consideration for the public interest, I made the appointments before I left the States, with but one exception, which I supplied after my arrival in this town.

The question of authority to appoint my assistants, after having been invested with the powers of Surveyor General, you will not, I presume doubt. My salary has been allowed from the date of my bonds, which were executed in Washington previous to my departure therefrom, and I humbly conceive that the appointment of the Clerks are parallel cases, and that if I am entitled to my salary from the time of my appointment, my assistants are entitled to the same consideration.

Although the Surveyor General's Office was not actually open in Santa Fe until about the 1st. of January last, my clerks were under orders from me to repair to this Territory, and, from the time they left their homes, I allowed them pay, the necessity of which I will proceed to explain.

Two of my clerks, Messrs Wilbar and Smith, performed important duties *en route* to this place. Mr. Wilbar assisted in the purchase of Instruments in Cincinnati, and took charge of them until we arrived

in New Orleans; when at the latter place I purchased my books, stationery, and other appertinances requisite for the Surveyor's Office. Mr. Wilbur assisted in the purchase of these articles, attended to their shipment, and acted commendable zeal in all matters relative to the public interest.

Having been attacked with yellow fever on my passage across the Gulf I was rendered unable to attend to the valuable Office Material which I had purchased. The vessel in which the stationery, &c had been shipped having been wrecked at the Town of Indianola, the articles were in great danger of being lost, stolen, or sold at public auction without authority. Mr. Wilbur, by my orders, repaired to the scene of disaster and saved the entire loss of the goods, which were then not materially injured by the salt water. This was done at a time when the yellow fever was raging, and had assumed the form of an epidemic. He was in imminent danger and risk of life from this fatal disease; yet his orders were carried out with great promptness and energy. At this time I was confined to my bed with the fever at Port La Vaca. Mr Smith also, about this time, assisted me in many respects. But, even without these services having been performed by these gentlemen, I conceive that all my appointments were proper and necessary, and that all of them are entitled to their salaries from the time that I appointed them.

I believe it is usual to allow pay from the date of appointment, or rather oath of office. In the Army and Navy such is the case. But, to give you a precedent more in point, I will refer you to the United States boundary Commission. The assistants were appointed in Washington City by Major Emory, and not only received their monthly pay, but were allowed quarters, rations, transportation and all their expenses until their arrival at the point where the survey was to commence. These allowances were made previous to the first convention between the two Commissions, which took place at El Pass, and before the operations commenced on the line. All the Members of this Commission will receive the requisite allowances for their safe conduct home — which allowances I believe to be but just and proper. The Clerks in my office receive no compensation of this kind, but have paid their entire expenses to this Country, at a dangerous and unhealthy season of the year. One of my Clerks informed me that his expenses from Washington to Santa Fé was about $475 — all of which he paid himself, and which amounts to nearly his salary for the time being.

Previous to my arrival at this place I made a hurried reconnoissance of the Valley of the Rio Grande in company with two of my employees, Mr Jesse Wilbur and Miller, from the Southern boundary of this Territory to this Town. This was another service performed prior to the actual opening of the Office here. During this trip I selected the site for the initial Monument of the public

surveys in this Territory, visited some of the Pueblo Villages as required by my instructions, and noticed the localities of the country throughout the extended Valley of the Rio Grande – all of which has obviated the necessity of an expensive tour to the South. My clerks were here again employed on important duties.

I indulge the hope that I have made full and ample explanation with reference to my own accounts and those of my assistants.

The necessity of employing the Assistants before I left the States is clearly obvious; and were I to do over again what I have done, without direct orders from the Department, my sense of public interest would induce me to engage my clerks in the States as before. Since my arrival here I have been convinced that I did right, and that Santa Fé could not have supplied the force qualified to perform the duties of this office. The necessity therefore, of bringing such persons as I deemed competent and faithful, with me, to this remote frontier, is so apparent that I will leave it to your own sense of propriety and public interest.

In closing this subject I cannot forbear expressing my disappointment at the nonarrival of the draft which has been withheld by the Department. When I reflect that I have been in the public service for a long series of years, and possessed the full confidence of the Government during the time, and that I am a bonded Officer to the amount of $30,000 whose sureties are responsible persons whose property covers more than one fourth of a million of dollars, I must say that I cannot comprehend why the comparatively trivial sum contained in my draft has thus been withheld. Any inadvertance in the administration of my office could easily have been corrected without suspending the funds intended for this service. So far as the question of my salary is considered, I am not particularly anxious but the loss to my Clerks, two of whom are married gentlemen whose fidelity and integrity I am proud of, is a matter of deep regret; and I therefore hope that their accounts will be allowed.

I am, Very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General N. Mexico

To John Wilson Esq
Commissioner General Land Office
Washington City
D. C

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, N. Mexico
April 30th 1855

Sir,

In my letter of the 1st April last in reference to the contract entered into with John N. Garrelson for running the Base and Meridian lines, I stated that I would forward to your Office the instructions to him by the next Mail.

I have the honor herewith to transmit a copy of my instructions to him.

Very Respectfully
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

John Wilson Esqr
Com. Genl Land Office.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, May 28th 1855

Sir,

Enclosed you will please find receipt for Treasury Draft No 9565 for $2,964.(67/100) dated 31st March 1855.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Samuel Casey Esqr
Treasurer of the United States
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
May 29th 1855

Sir,

In my letter of the 28th April last, addressed to your office, I made what I deemed a full and satisfactory explanation in reference to the additional five hundred dollars disbursed in my favor; but upon the receipt of your communication of the 28th March last, forwarding me a draft for specified amounts, my salary is charged at the rate of three thousand dollars per annum. I had thought until my explanation had been received, that

the question of my salary would have been laid over for the time being, in order that my views in the premises, as desired by your letter referred to above, could have been received and acted upon. I have therefore made out my accounts as previously, at the rate of thirty five hundred dollars per annum until I could hear your decision in the matter, deeming my explanation requisite for that purpose.

I avail myself of this occasion to call your attention to the case of the Surveyor General of Arkansas, who under the appropriation bills of 1839, 40 & '41. received five hundred dollars additional, simply by an amendment to appropriate five hundred dollars for the Surveyor General of Arkansas, without specifying that this amount should go to the Surveyor General or his Clerks; and for several following years, when this five hundred dollars was omitted in the appropriation bills, the salary of said Surveyor General reverted to the original sum of fifteen hundred dollars. While Surveyor General of Arkansas in 1841, I received a portion of this additional five hundred dollars for the fractional year of '41, and when the act itself was silent as to what the Surveyor General should receive. Therefore, in consideration of my present position, which is clearly a parallel case to the Surveyor of Arkansas, I claim and have charged the amounts exhibited on the face of my accounts.

The appropriation bill for the present fiscal year gives to the Surveyor General of New Mexico and his Clerks seven thousand five hundred dollars; four thousand for the latter, leaving three thousand five hundred dollars, which to all intents and purposes, and to every reasonable view of the subject, the Surveyor General is entitled to the residue of said appropriation. And in view of of the additional labors and responsibilities imposed on the Surveyor General of this Territory by the act of July 22d, 1854, entitled "An act to establish the Offices of Surveyor General of New Mexico, Kansas and Nebraska &c", particularly in regard to private land claims, and other duties of a minor but important character, he is abundantly justified in the construction given by this office to the said appropriation act; and any other version of the same law, in my opinion, savors of so rigid a construction as to be entirely at variance with the rights of the Surveyor General, and to just precedents. Under these circumstances, I herewith transmit to your office, my accounts drawn at the rate of thirty five hundred dollars per annum for the quarter ending the 31st March 1855, hoping it will be allowed upon a fair examination of the whole ground. I also transmit the accounts of my Clerks for the quarter ending the 31st March 1855.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of New Mexico

John Wilson Esq
Commissioner of Genl Land Office
Washington City
&c

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, June 25th 1855

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the twelve copies of the revised edition of the Manual of Surveying Instructions to Deputy Surveyors, the blank field Note Books and Covers, also the maps forwarded to this Office. Upon examination I find the blank books too small to contain the field Notes of the Survey of one Township, and will therefore be compelled to have them remodeled.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

John Wilson Esqr
Commissioner of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, June 28th 1855

Hon. R. McClelland
Secretary of the Interior,
Sir,

Your circular letter of the 26th April has been received. It affords the principal in this office pleasure to state that neither himself, nor any of his subordinates are, or have been engaged in the speculation of Bounty Land Warrants in New Mexico, and that the instructions contained in the letter referred to will be strictly observed.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, June 30th 1855

Sir,

I have the honor herewith to transmit a Statement of the disbursements for incidental expenses of the Office and Vouchers from 1st April to 30th June 1855.

You will perceive by reference to the account that I have credited the United States with $283.50 rec^d for Iron safe. I was induced to let the Quarter Master of the U.S have it at the original cost and transportation on account of the difficulty of getting it from El Paso to this place. I have not yet succeeded in procuring the transportation even of my Stationery, and am unable to say when I can.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

John Wilson Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, June 29th 1855

Sir,

There is a case presented and prepared for investigation in this Office where there is a very large amount of land at issue, upon which there are squatters who design contesting the right of the grantee, and have demanded the summoning of witnesses who live at a considerable distance. My instructions do not inform me who will serve the summons, nor in what way the witnesses are to be paid; the Government cannot expect to obtain their evidence when I have not the power to compel them to attend without paying at least their expenses while attending upon the Land Court.

Will you please give me instructions on this subject?.

The grants which have been filed, in every instance call for natural boundaries without specifying the number of acres, and no surveys have been made. I deem it important to the intelligent action of this Office in the premises to have the power at the proper time during the investigation to order a Survey, for upon the information furnished by the Surveyor may depend the Confirmation or rejection of the Claim.

I desire your instructions at your earliest convenience on the subjects above referred to

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

John Wilson Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, June 30th 1855

Sir,

Herewith you will please receive the field notes and account of John H. Garretson Esq for the survey of ninety six miles of the Principal Meridian in New Mexico, which he requests may be adjusted at as early a date as practicable, that he may have the means to use in the prosecution of his work.

It will be perceived that no maps accompany the other papers. In September last I purchased a supply of Stationery at New Orleans for this Office, and used every exertion in my power to have it brought to this place, but up to this time have only been able to get it as far, as El Paso I have made diligent search and have been unable to procure drawing paper sufficient to construct the maps of this account upon. I will, however as soon as my paper arrives, have them constructed and forwarded. I hope however that the receipt of Mr Garretson and the copy of the field notes will be considered sufficient evidence to the Department to allow of the speedy settlement of the account, and the remittance of the means.

It is extremely difficult to find here even sufficient paper to write official letters upon, and if the remittance does not soon arrive it may be impossible to obtain a supply for the next fiscal year before the latter part of August 1856.

Mr Garretson after having entered into contract, remained here near a month for the arrival of the Standard Chain forwarded from Washington in the box of books, and finally was compelled to send two of his men from the initial point to El Paso for one; they took it to Camp, and Mr. Garretson did not know of the description of it given in your letter of the 26th August 1854, Therefore adopted the whole chain as the Standard, and with that measure surveyed over one hundred and ten miles, but afterwards the mistake was discovered and he without delay commenced and resurveyed that part of the Meridian North of the initial point, which is a part of the account herewith forwarded, The remainder he will resurvey as he goes down the river. The mistake in the measure caused the loss of over two thousand dollars worth of work, which I urge as one reason for the prompt payment of his account.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

John Wilson Esq
Comr. Genl. Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, June 30th 1855

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the quarterly account and vouchers for salaries of this Office for the quarter ending the 30th June 1855

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Jno Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

John Wilson Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
July 22nd 1855

Sir,

Your letter of the 4th May on the subject of retaining a per cent on contracts for surveying the public lands in New Mexico has been received. The provision in the printed forms of contracts sent to this Office from Washington, to retain a per cent out of each contract for surveying with a view of accumulating a fund for the purpose of defraying the expenses of a Surveyor to examine on the ground, the surveys to test the accuracy of their execution, did not escape my observation. I deem the principle a good one in ordinary surveying, and I propose to apply its provisions to the subdivision and running exterior boundaries of Townships in New Mexico. I did not however perceive how it could be applied to the Survey of the Base, Meridian and Standard Correction lines. Those lines are required to be extended through Countries infested with roving bands of hostile Indians, whose habits have been marked by pillage, rapine and murder for ages past. The Surveyor who is now engaged on that service, has been under the necessity of employing men at fifty dollars per month, furnish them with provisions, arms, ammunition and transportation, to serve as an escort to protect the lives and property of himself and his company against the depredations of those Indians while executing his surveys. An Examiner would be under the necessity of incurring a like expense in employing an escort to protect him while executing his services, amounting perhaps to one fourth or fifth of the gross sum stipulated in the Contract. Were it proposed to deduct that

amount from the payment of the Surveys, it would be very difficult, if not impracticable to employ skillful and suitable Surveyors, who would perform the work in the manner required by the Government. And again, if a Surveyor perform his work faithfully and in accordance with law and instructions, would it be just and proper to require of him to incur the heavy expense of examination. Believing I had no instructions to the reverse, I thought not, and therefore entered into contracts without specifying a per cent to be retained. Mr. Garretson however, who has those lines to survey, requests me to say that he has no objection to a large payment being retained until the Government shall have time to examine his work, and if it be found incorrect, will without delay refund what money he may have received upon his surveys in this Territory. But if the Government require of him to pay one fourth of the sum which he is to receive for his surveying to the Examiner, it will take all his profits, and leave him nothing as a remuneration for his labor, and the privations and dangers which he has suffered in the execution of his surveying.

Mr. Garretson has manifested a very commendable zeal and energy in the prosecution of his work, and seems more anxious about saving his money than about the dangers to human life which is very considerable.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

John Wilson Esq.
Commissioner of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
July 24th 1855

Sir,

Your letter of the 3d May in relation to the 2 per cent commission allowed by law to the Surveyor General of New Mexico, on moneys received by him from the sale of the public lands has been received. Up to this time no moneys have been received from that source, and until after the subdivisional surveys shall have been executed, none can be received. Previous to performing the duties of a Receiver of Public Moneys, I will execute a special Bond for the safe keeping of the funds thus received, and shall comply strictly with the requisitions contained in your letter of the 3d May above referred to.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

John Wilson Esq.
Commissioner of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
July 25th 1855

Sir,

Your letter of the 11th June 1855 acknowledging the settlement of my salary accounts for the 3d & 4th Quarters of 1854 has been received. Although I believe that I am entitled under the law to receive compensation at the rate of $3500.00 per annum, yet I will correct the accounts in accordance with your instructions in the letter above referred to.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Elisha Whittlesey Esq
Comptroller
Washington City

Surveyor's Office, New Mexico
Santa Fe, July 25th 1855

Sir,

I have received the following Treasury Drafts, payable to my order by the

No. 41	on Treasy Dft Warrant No 9716 P.T. for	$2500.	New York
" 42	" " " " " "	2000.	" "
" 43	" " " " " "	2000.	" "
" 44	" " " " " "	2000.	" "
" 45	" " " " " "	2000.	" "
" 46	" " " " " "	3500.	New Orleans
" 47	" " " " " "	2000.	" "
		$15000.	

Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Samuel Casey, Esq
Treasurer of the United States.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, July 27th 1855

Sir

Herewith you will please receive the plats of the Survey of Ninety six miles of the Principal Meridian in New Mexico. The field notes of the survey and also the account of Mr. John F. Garretson were forwarded to your Office on the 30th ult.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

John Wilson Esq
Commissioner of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
August 30th 1855

Sir,

Your letter of the 11th June has been received acknowledging the settlement of the accounts for "Office Rent &c" for the 3d & 4th quarters 1854 & 1st quarter 1855.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Elisha Whittlesey Esq
Comptroller
Washington City.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
August 30th 1855

Sir

Your letter of the 17th July acknowledging the settlement of my "Salary accounts" for the 1st quarter 1855 has been received

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Elisha Whittlesey Esq
Comptroller
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
August 30th 1855

Sir,

Your letter of the 22nd June has been received acknowledging the receipt of mine of 28th April in explanation of the suspended vouchers in my "Salary Account" for the quarter ending the 31st December 1854, and the settlement of the same at your Office.

Very respectfully
Your Obt Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

To the Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City.

Surveyor General's Office, Santa Fe New Mexico
August 31st 1855

Sir,

Your letter of the 21st June '55 has been received acknowledging the settlement of my "Salary Account" for the quarter ending 31st Dec 1854, and my accounts for "Office rent, Incidental expenses &c" up to the 31st March 1855

Very respectfully, your obt Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
August 31st 1855

Sir

By the time I shall expect to receive an answer to this the Survey of the Correction line passing near Fort Stanton will probably be finished. Fort Stanton was established on the River Bonito during the past year, in a Section of Country whose richness of soil and other inducements have caused quite a number of families to locate there and form a Settlement. This settlement is upon the public domain, and lies upon the rivers Bonito and Ruidoso near their junction, which form the Rio Hondo.

In view of the importance to the Settlers that their lands be surveyed to them at as early a day as possible, and believing as I do that it would be to the interest of the Government to have them surveyed as soon as practicable, I ask that the Surveyor General

be authorized to contract for the surveying of a few Townships to embrace the land on and adjacent to those Rivers, not to exceed six hundred or eight hundred miles, at the prices provided by law for subdivisional work

Very respectfully
Your obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General
New Mexico

Commissioner General Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, Sept. 25th 1855

Sir,

I have received the following Treasury Drafts payable to my order by the Asst Treasurer U.S. St Louis

No 382 on Treas Int Warrant	No 52	for	$2.000
No 388 " " " "	No 58	"	1,650
No. 389 " " " "	No 59	"	2,250

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Samuel Casey, Esq.
Treasurer of the United States.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, September 30th 1855

Sir

I have the honor herewith to transmit a Statement of the disbursements for incidental expenses of this Office and Vouchers from the 1st July to the 30th September 1855 inclusive.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

To the
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, September 30th 1855

Sir

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the quarterly account and vouchers for Salaries of this Office for the quarter ending the 30th September 1855

Very respectfully
Your Obt Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

To the
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
September 30th 1855

Sir,

Accompanying I forward you my Bond as Receiver of Public Moneys for the District of New Mexico, properly executed in the sum of fifty thousand dollars.

Very respectfully
Your Obt Servt
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Commissioner General Land Office
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
September 30th 1855.

Sir,

In compliance with your request per Circular of the 26th May last asking a List of all the Officers employed in this Office at this date, together with a Statement of their grade, places of nativity and residence when appointed and compensation per annum, I herewith enclose you a tabular Memorandum embodying that information.

Very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Commissioner General Land Office
Washington City. D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, September 27th 1855

Sir

Your letter of the 21st July, advising me that you had requested the sum of Thirty nine hundred dollars should be forwarded, to meet the quarterly expenses of this office for Salaries and contingent expenses, has been received.

In acknowledging the receipt of this remittance I cannot but express my regret, that the request contained in my letter of the 31st March last has not been taken into consideration. In that communication I requested the remittance of the sums appropriated for incidental expenses of the Office and for Salaries of the Surveyor General and his clerks for the fiscal year ending the 30th June 1856, and requested that drafts might be forwarded upon St Louis and New Orleans for the amount. My object in doing so was to have the drafts in hand a sufficient length of time to enable me to collect them before the days of making quarterly returns, and also to make purchase of the supplies necessary for the office, and have them freighted over the plains during the freighting season. The drafts forwarded cannot be cashed in Santa Fe at par, and I shall be compelled to have them collected, which will require three months more to get returns; And again the decision of the Department, to forward by quarterly instalments the sum for incidental expenses, acts injuriously to the public service, as it compels me to purchase such articles as are here for the use of the office at an expense to the Government of an advance of one hundred to one hundred and fifty per cent above the cost, and many of the articles of an inferior class.

As it requires four months to get a reply from Washington, in consequence of the arrangement of the mail facilities, I write in this communication request drafts upon New York for the payment of the next quarter.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

To Commissioner of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, September 28th 1855

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to forward contract No. 2 entered into with John W. Garretson and James S. Lawson for surveying six hundred miles of the standard correction lines.

The necessity of surveying in the hilly or mountainous country in the summer or dry season, was the cause of my contracting for the survey of the correction lines previous to the completion of the contract for the survey of the Base and Principal Meridian, as it was almost impossible to survey that portion of the line south of the initial Monument previous to the rainy season. Mr. Garretson has written me that water has cost him seventy five cents per gallon for himself and mules while surveying a portion of the work.

Mr. Lawson after entering into contract for the survey of six hundred miles of the correction lines proceeded in conjunction with Mr. Garretson to execute the work, but after surveying a few miles became discouraged, and petitioned this Office to release him from this contract, and having obtained the consent of Mr. Garretson and the promise that he would complete the work, I consented to do so

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

To the
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, Sept 30th 1855

Sir,

It will be perceived there are several items in the account of expenditures for Incidental Expenses of this Office for the present quarter of an unusual character. But, if you will refer to the Act of Congress of 22nd July, 1854, establishing the Office of Surveyor General of New Mexico, it will be seen that the 8th Section confers upon the Surveyor General, while acting as Land Commissioner to settle land titles, the power "to do and perform all other necessary acts in the premises". The case came up for trial of the claim of Juan Esteban Pino's heirs to a large tract of country on the Pecos and Gallinas rivers in this Territory. I issued subpoenas for witnesses, and called upon the United States Marshal to serve them, who declined doing so, upon the ground that,

independent of the dangers from Indian murderers, the fees allowed by law would fall very considerably short of meeting the necessary expenses incurred in travelling while performing the service. I was consequently under the necessity of sending Mr. L. Smith, one of the Clerks in this Office, to execute that duty. For several days Mr Smith inquired and searched for a horse or mule to ride, but not one could be found in Santa Fe, that could be hired. As the witnesses several of them lived on the Pecos and Gallinas near where the land claim is located, distant from this place some seventy five miles, it was necessary to have the services of a horse or mule. I therefore purchased a tolerably good mule, and am keeping it for that purpose. I hope the above explanation will be satisfactory, and that the expenditures made while executing the duties of Land Commissioner may be posted to my credit

Very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Commissioner General Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
September 30th 1855

Sir,

I have the honor to submit the following as the Report of the operations of this office from the time of its establishment up to the present time.

I arrived at this place on the 28th day of December last, and immediately opened the Office of the Surveyor General of this Territory.

In accordance with your instructions I made application to His Excellency David Meriwether Governor of the Territory for such of the Archives as related to grants of land by the former authorities of the Country which he declined delivering, giving as his reason that their selection from the large amount of papers composing the public archives of the Territory would involve an immense amount of labor and a heavy expenditure which he was not authorized to incur. He however allowed me to remove the packages containing such papers as related to the grants of land in the Country, from their deposit, and examine them in my own office, whereupon I immediately assigned two

of my clerks to separate them. On the last day of July this difficult duty was accomplished, and from 168 packages arranging 168000 papers of every nature and description imaginable 1715 grants, conveyances of land, and other documents referring to claims to land have been selected and are now being arranged and classified in a systematical form in this office. It will however be impossible to have them properly and substantially bound, as required by your instructions, on account of the different shapes and forms in which they are found, some existing on large sheets of foolscap paper, while others are to be found on half sheets and others again on scraps of paper which can never be bound in any convenient form. I respectfully suggest that they be copied in substantially bound books, properly certified and translated.

There is no data to be found in the archives from which the names of the Officers of the Territory who held the power of distributing lands from the earliest settlement of the Territory until the change of government, can be obtained, should I be entitled to procure that information from any other authoritative source, I will embody it in my next annual report.

I herewith enclose a Notice, marked A which I issued upon my arrival at this place, expressing my readiness to receive notices and testimony in support of the land claims of individuals derived before the change of government, by virtue of which notice fifteen claims have been filed for examination and adjudication. The difficulties and expense to which parties filing claims in this office are subjected to, will account for the limited number which have been filed, and I respectfully recommend further legislation on the subject, as the present law has utterly failed to secure the object for which it was intended.

My residence in this place has been so short and my duties so pressing that I have not been able to procure sufficient information upon which to base any report in reference to the mineral lands in this Territory.

There are many land titles and grants deposited in the Archives of the several County Seats in this Territory, and I am informed that all the grants made between the first Conquest of this Territory and its reconquest in 1678 are deposited in the Archives of El Paso, the former Capital of the Territory, the grants made to individuals in the Mesilla Valley and the Territory North acquired from the Republic of Mexico are also deposited at El Paso, and provisions should be made to have them all selected, and permanently deposited in the Archives of this office.

Since the establishment of this Office border donation claims have been filed for land in different portions of the Territory upon which no action has yet been taken as they do not come within the requirements of the law prescribing four years continuous settlement and cultivation. Experience has shown the propriety of so amending the law as to allow persons who claim donations at a distance from the settlements, and who reside in a body or town, for the better protection of their lives and property from the attacks of the Indians, to enter 160 acres of land without being required to reside upon it for the time prescribed by the present law, otherwise they will not settle upon lands where they are in constant danger of attacks from the Indians, without being able to defend themselves, on account of their isolated position.

There have been no sales of the public lands up to this date.

Pueblos.

The grants made by the Government of Spain to the Pueblos of Sitla, Santa Ana, San Juan, Jemez and Pecos have been filed, examined and approved by this Office.

The population of the above Pueblos as ascertained from the Indian Agent is as follows.

Sitla	124	Inhabitants
Santa Ana	399	"
San Juan	568	"
Jemez	365	"
Pecos	10	"

The grants to the Pueblos not above enumerated have not come into this Office yet, so soon as they are all filed, and the surveys of their land made, I will forward the Map required by your instructions, showing the locality and extent of each Pueblo.

Surveys

On my way to this place in December last, I made a reconnoissance of the Valley of the Rio Grande for the purpose of selecting a suitable place for the initial point, at which the Survey of the Base and Meridian lines should commence, agreeable to your instructions I selected a hill about six miles below the mouth of the Puerco River, which is two hundred feet high and of a rocky foundation, this hill is nearly round and is washed at its base by the Rio Grande. I have therefore established this hill as the initial point and have caused a suitable monument to be erected on its summit.

On the 9th day of March last a Contract was entered into with John W. Garrelson Esq. for running the Base and Meridian lines in this Territory of which One hundred and seventy miles have been run south intersecting the dividing line between this Territory and the Republic of Mexico, twenty one miles west of the

Rio Grande, and nineteen six miles have been run north.

On the ninth day of May last a joint Contract was entered into with John W. Garretson and James S. Lawson for running six hundred Miles of Standard and Correction lines; owing to business of a private nature, Mr. Lawson, with Mr. Garretson's consent, withdrew from the Contract, and Mr. Garretson is now fulfilling it alone. Under this Contract one hundred and twelve Miles have already been run, and notwithstanding the many difficulties he has had to encounter, having in one instance alone paid seventy five cents per Gallon for water for his Animals, and the constant danger to which he is exposed from attacks by the Indians, which has caused him to employ a large number of hands, at exceedingly high wages, Mr. Garretson, with the energy and perseverance he has always manifested, will in a few Months complete the Contract.

The above lines were run with Burts improved Solar Compass which upon trial has been found to be admirably adapted to Surveying in this Country.

In order that I may be enabled to close the Surveys on the Boundary, it is of the utmost importance that the line dividing the State of Texas from this Territory be established at the earliest possible period.

I forward herewith a Sketch Map marked B. Showing the Amount of Surveys executed in this Territory up to the present time. The black lines denote the Surveys which have been made and the Records of which have been forwarded to, and are now deposited in this Office. Those Surveys which have been reported, but the field Notes for which, owing to the difficulty of their safe transmission to this Office, have not been forwarded, are marked on the Map with dotted lines.

Statement C herewith forwarded exhibits an estimate of the appropriation required for Salary of the Surveyor General, Translator, and Clerks in his Office, and for Surveys for the fiscal year ending the 30th June 1857.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
M. Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

To the
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

C.

Estimate

of Appropriation required for the Office of the Surveyor General of New Mexico for the fiscal year ending the 30th June 1857.

Object of Appropriations	Amounts
For Salary of Surveyor General	3000.00
For Salary of Translator	2000.00
For Salaries of Clerks in Surveyor General's Office	7500.00
For Incidental Expenses	3000.00
For Surveying Private Land Claims	20.000.00
For Surveying Public Land	30.000.00

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, Sept. 30th 1855

Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of New Mexico

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
October 3rd 1855

Sir,

Having been a resident of the Territory for some years and now occupying a position under the Government which has enabled you to acquire a great deal of information on subjects which are of importance to the government, I will thank you, if consistent with your duty to give me such information as you may have on the following points, viz.

1st Are you aware of the existence of any Spanish or Mexican grants on the Mimbres or Gila Rivers, or of any gold, silver, copper or lead mines, or salt lakes or springs within the limits of the lands ceded by the Governor & Ex Off. Sup. of Ind. Affs for this Territory to the Mescalero and Gila Apache Indians?

2nd. Do you believe the location of the above Indians on the lands ceded to them by the Governor, to be advantageous to the Government or beneficial to the interests of the Territory?

3rd. Is it not your opinion that the location of the Mescalero and Gila Apaches is calculated to afford them, owing to the large extent of country embraced within the limits assigned to them, a favorable opportunity to marauds upon the white Settlers on the Rio Grande, and encourage them to plunder and pillage the U. S. mail and travellers

from San Antonio Texas, El Paso and the Southern portion of the Territory en route to this City? and also have a tendency to prevent emmigration into our Territory on account of the best land being set aside for the use of the Indians.

An early reply to the above will greatly oblige

Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of N. Mex.

M. Steck Esq
Indian Agent for New Mexico
Santa Fé.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, October 31, 1855.

Sir.—

Your letter of the 18th ultimo informing me of the adjustment at the Treasury of my accounts on account of "Office Rent, &c., for the second quarter 1855, is received

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
Wm Pelham,
Surv. General New Mexico.

Hon J. M. Ramsey,
Actg Comptroller,
Washington D.C.

Surveyor General's Office.
Santa Fé, Oct. 31, 1855.

Sir.—

Yours of the 18th ultimo informing me of the receipt and adjustment of my accounts for the second quarter, 1855, on account of the compensation of the Surveyor General and those employed in his Office, has been received.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,
Wm Pelham,
Surveyor Genl. New Mexico.

Hon. J. M. Ramsey,
Acting Comptroller
Washington D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, Oct. 31, 1855.

Sir. ~

Your letter of the 7th. ultimo, in which you acknowledge the receipt of sundry letters and field notes from this Office, and enclose for my guidance a copy of a letter to the Surveyor General of Washington Territory, &c., &c., is received.

In regard to the corners erected under the survey of Mr. Garrison which was found incorrect, and which was corrected by resurvey, I have to inform you that they were all destroyed on discovering their erroneous positions; and you would have been informed of this fact before had I not considered their demolition so entirely a matter of course as to make it unnecessary to advise you thereof.

I regret to learn of the delay in the transmission through the mails of some of my communications and enclosures to your office, as in the instance of fieldnotes going to hand a month earlier than the accompanying letter sent by the same mail. So it is in the reception of letters and documents here from Washington. Sometime since I received a draft from the Treasury a month previous to the receipt of the letter from your Office advising me of its transmission and object—though the dates of the draft and letter were very nearly simultaneous, and were sent, no doubt, from Washington at the same time.

Very respectfully, your obedient Servant,
Wm Pelham,
Surv. General New Mexico.

Hon. Thos. A. Hendricks,
Commissioner, &c., &c., &c.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, Oct. 31, 1855.

Sir ~

Your letter of the 15th. ultimo acknowledging the receipt of mine of the 30th. June last accompanying my "Salary" and "Incidental Expenses" accounts, for the Quarter ending 30th. June, and informing me of the adjustment of the same as per statement in your letter, has been duly received.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,
Wm Pelham,
Surv. Genl. New Mexico.

Hon. Thos. A. Hendricks
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
October 22nd 1855

Sir,

Enclosed I have the honor to transmit to you a letter addressed to this office by M. Steck Esq Indian Agent for New Mexico, containing information of the existence of a large grant of land made by the former authorities of the Country previous to its cession to the United States; gold, silver, iron, lead and copper mines also existing within the limits of the lands proposed to be ceded to the Mimbres Apaches, by a treaty made with them by H. E. David Meriwether, Governor and Ex Officio Superintendent of Indian Affairs of this Territory. In view of the information contained in the foregoing letter, the ratification of the Treaty made with these Indians becomes a matter of primary importance to the Government, both politically and pecuniarily. Should this Treaty be ratified the interest of the Territory will be seriously injured, by depriving its inhabitants from working the mines located within the limits proposed to be established, and also involve the Government in an immense outlay of money for the purchase of the grant mentioned in the foregoing letter. The land is said to be valued now at forty thousand dollars, and should the Government become the purchaser, it will cost, at least, from one to two hundred thousand dollars to obtain the title and interest of the present owners. I have therefore deemed it proper to inform you of the facts reported to me, in order that you may protest against the ratification of the above mentioned Treaty.

I am Sir
Very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Hon. Thos. A. Hendricks
Comm. of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, November 28. 1855.

Sir.—

Your letter of the 4th ultimo in reference to the summoning of witnesses for the investigation of private land claims has been received; also yours of the 12th ultimo authorizing the survey of a few townships not to exceed six or eight hundred miles on the rivers Bonito & Ruidoso near Fort Stanton.

Very respectfully your obt servant,
C. B. Magruder,
Acting Surveyor General of New Mexico

Thos. A. Hendricks Esq
Commissioner of the General Land office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
November 30. 1855.

Sir:—

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the Fieldnotes and Plats, also the a/c of Mr John W. Garrison for the survey of one hundred and seventy miles, 47 chains and 38 links of the Principal Meridian south of the Base Line in the Territory of New Mexico, eighteen miles & 03 chains on the Boundary line between the United States and Mexico, forty five and a half miles of the Base Line, two hundred and eighty four miles, 56 chains & 45 links of the standard Correction north and south of the Base Line, and seventy two miles of the Guide Meridian No. 1 between Ranges 8 & 9 East through Townships No. 13 & 24 inclusive.

Very respectfully,
Your obt Servant,
Wm. Pelham,
Surveyor General.

Thos. A. Hendricks, Esq.,
Commissioner of the General Land office,
Washington City.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, Dec. 24, 1855.

Sir.—

I have received the following Treasury Draft payable to my order by the A. D. U. S. New York:- No. 1004 on T. D Warrant No. 1624 for $2,900.00.

Your obedient Servant,
Wm. Pelham,
Surveyor General of N. Mexico.

Samuel Casey, Esq.,
Treasurer of the United States.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, December 29, 1855.

Sir.—

Your letter of the 7th ultimo advising me that you had requested the Secretary of the Interior to forward Drafts to the amount of Thirtynine Hundred Dollars, has been received.

Very respectfully,
Your obt Servant,
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General New Mexico.

Thos. A. Hendricks, Esq.,
Commissioner of the General Land office,
Washington City,
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, December 31, 1855.

Sir.—

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the Quarterly Account and Vouchers for Salaries of this Office for the Quarter ending the 31st December 1855.

Very respectfully,
Your obt Servant,
Wm. Pelham.
Surveyor General New Mexico.

Thos. A. Hendricks, Esq.,
Commissioner General Land office,
Washington D. C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
December 29, 1855.

Sir.—

Your letter of the 19th ultimo informing me that one copy of my Annual Report and a portion of the papers accompanying the same had reached your Office, and requesting that the deficiency might be made up, has been received.

Herewith you will please find one copy of the Report. The Maps of the Surveys that accompanied the Report I will have executed and forwarded by the February mail.

Very respectfully,
Your obt Servant,
Wm Pelham,
Surveyor General of New Mexico.

Thos. A. Hendricks, Esq.,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City,
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, December 31, 1855.

Sir.—

I have the honor herewith to transmit a Statement of the Disbursements for Incidental Expenses of this Office, and Vouchers from the 1st October to 31st December 1855, inclusive.

Very respectfully
Your obt Servant,
Wm Pelham,
Surveyor General of New Mexico.

Thos. A. Hendricks,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City,
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
January 29th, 1856.

Sir.—

Your letter of the 29th December 1855 acknowledging the receipt and approval of Bonds as Receiver of Public Moneys has been received.

Very respectfully,
Your obt Servant
C. B. Magruder
Actg Surveyor General of New Mexico.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
January 29, 1856.

Sir.—

Your letter of the 8th ult. acknowledging the receipt of duplicate Annual Report and Diagrams marked B has been received.

Very respectfully, your obt Servant
C. B. Magruder,
Actg Surveyor Genl of New Mexico.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.,
Commissioner General Land Office
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico, January 29 1856.

Sir.—

Your letter of 17th ult. directing me to notify Deputy Surveyors that no assignment of amounts due them will be recognized after 1st April 1856 has been received.

Very respectfully,
Your obt Servant,
C. B. Magruder,
Actg Surveyor General of New Mexico.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, January 31. 1855

Sir:—

Your letter of 30th November last has been received enclosing correspondence with James Pilton, Esq., Surveyor General of Washington Territory in relation to the examination of the public surveys in that Territory, and authorizing this Office to employ a suitable person to examine the public surveys in this Territory while in process of execution, should it be deemed advisable.

Very respectfully,
Your obt servant,
C. B. Magruder,
Actg Surveyor Genl of New Mexico.

Hon. A. Hendricks, Esq.,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City,
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
January 30 1856.

Sir:—

Your letter of the 13th ultimo acknowledging the receipt and adjustment of the Quarterly Accounts of this Office for the Quarter ending the 30th September 1855 has been received.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,
C. B. Magruder,
Actg Surveyor General of New Mexico.

Thomas A. Hendricks, Esq.,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
January 31, 1856.

Sir.—

Your letter of 5th ultimo acknowledging the adjustment of the Quarterly Accounts of this Office for the Quarter

ending 30th September, 1855 has been received.

Very respectfully
Your obt Servant,
C. B. Magruder,
Actg Surveyor General of New Mexico.

Elisha Whittlesey, Esq.,
Comptroller,
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
March 31st, 1856

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the quarterly account and Vouchers for Salaries of this office for the quarter ending the 31st March 1856.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Thomas A. Hendricks, Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
March 31st 1856

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to transmit a Statement of the disbursements for Incidental Expenses of this Office and Vouchers from the 1st January to the 31st March 1856 inclusive

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Thos. A. Hendricks Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
March 31st 1856

Sir,

Herewith you will please find the application of James S. Lawson to be released from a contract for the survey of six hundred miles of the Standard lines in this Territory and my release thereon, also the receipt of J. S. Lawson to J. R. Garrison in full satisfaction for services rendered in the survey of a portion of said work.

Very respectfully
Your obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Thos. A. Hendricks Esq.,
Commissioner of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
April 30th 1856

Sir,

In my Estimate of the expenses of this Office for the year ending 30th June 1857, an item of great importance, in my opinion, to the public interest was unintentionally omitted. The omission was the item of One Thousand Dollars for the construction of a Stone Vault for the safekeeping of the public archives, composing the evidence of Land Titles in this Territory.

The necessity of such a vault will be more fully apparent to you when I inform you that the walls of all the houses in Santa Fé are made of sundried bricks, and that a breach could be effected through any of them by one man in a few hours' labor. As there is no record of these papers, their loss would be very great, and their better security therefore becomes a matter of the first importance to the Government and the citizens interested.

I desire that you recommend the incorporation of this item into the annual appropriation for this Office to be made at the present Session and urge upon Congress the necessity of its passage.

Very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Hon Tho A. Hendricks
Commissioner General Land Office
Washington D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
April 30th 1856

Sir

Herewith I have the honor to forward the Maps and &c of Mr. John R. Gametson for the survey of forty eight miles of the Guide Meridian No. 2 between Ranges No. 19 & 20 E. through Townships No. 9 to 16 N inclusive, and one hundred and ninety two miles of the Standard Correction lines North of the Base line in the Territory of New Mexico —

The field Notes will be forwarded by the next mail,

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Commissioner of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
April 30th 1856

Sir

Your letter of 7th January last enclosing the papers relative to the Ortiz claim to a gold mine known as St. Rosalia has been received, and the papers filed in this Office for future action to be had thereon.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Commissioner of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
May 15th 1856

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to forward the field notes of the survey of 48 miles of Guide Meridian between Ranges 19 & 20 East, and 192 miles of the Standard Correction lines, executed by John R. Gamelson Dep Surveyor under his contract of the 9th May 1855

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Thomas A Hendricks Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
May 19th 1856

Sir

The accompanying letter has been received in this office from Col. Mayers, the Government Agent for the Pueblo Indians in this Territory, and it is forwarded for your consideration and action on the subject.

These Indians are agricultural in their pursuits, and have the reputation of being an industrious and a worthy people. The letter of the Agent is transmitted with an entire concurrence in its suggestions.

Very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks, Esq
Commissioner Genl Land Office,
Washington, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
May 24th 1856

Sir,

Herewith you will please find Contract No. 3 with John N. Garrison Esq. for the Survey of One hundred and fifty six miles of Meridian and Standard Correction lines, and Six hundred & Ninety six miles of Township boundaries and Subdivisional lines North of the Base line and East of the Principal Meridian in New Mexico, also a Copy of instructions to Mr. Garrison in relation to the Survey thereof.

From the best information that I could procure, I deemed it more advisable to survey the County on and near the Conchos, than that on the Rio Bonito, and therefore gave a Contract for the Survey of that County.

Enclosed you will find a letter from Mr. Garrison to this Office in relation to the County to be surveyed, also the remarks of the Editor of the Santa Fe Gazette, which I hope will be a satisfactory explanation for having the County surveyed on and near the Conchos instead of the Bonito.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendrick, Esq.
Commr. Gen. Land Office

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
May 27, 1856

Sir,

I have been informed that designing and mischievous individuals having intercourse with many of the Pueblo Indians of this Territory, have been endeavoring to impress this simple minded thoughtworthy people with the belief that the object of the Government in demanding the title papers to their lands is to destroy such evidence of title as they possess and then withhold the Patents. The consequence is, the Indians, having no other evidence of title than the documents made by the Spanish Government, feel and express an unwillingness to surrender their papers for the purpose of being sent to Washington as required by the instructions, under which I am now acting. Were this Office authorized to retain the original title papers here, and required to forward only a certified

copy of it to Washington, instead of the original, the Indians of the different Pueblos could always satisfy themselves by an examination in this Office that their papers were safe, and this would have a tendency to inspire them with a confidence in the good intentions of the Government and with a willingness to wait for the patenting of their lands.

Accompanying you will find a letter to me from Gen. Mayer, the Agent for the Pueblo Indians on the subject, which I refer to your consideration

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Hon. Thos. A. Hendricks
Commissioner Gen. Land Office
Washington, D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
May 27th 1856

Sir,

Your letter of the 11th Ult. requesting a Synopsis of my annual Report of the progress of my Surveying and office operations, and also Surveying and Office estimates for the fiscal year ending the 30th June 1858 has been received. The requisitions therein contained will be complied with.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Commissioner of the Gen. Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office.
Santa-Fé, New Mexico.
May 30, 1857.

Sir.—

I deem it my duty at this time to reply to your letter of the 13th December 1855, disallowing my account for the costs of the first session of the Land Court in this Office; and in doing so it is my intention to respectfully disagree with your decision in the matter, and to make such suggestions for your consideration as I regard necessary to enable me to carry out the purport of the treaty, the law of Congress and my Instructions relative to private land claims in New-mexico.

I have been governed to a great extent respecting these land grants by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, under which the citizens of all the acquired territory from Mexico, whether natives or Americans, are guaranteed their rights of property as clearly as if this Territory had remained under the sovereignty of the Government of Mexico, and to be subjected to no expense whatever.

Now, the law of Congress approved 22nd July 1854 requires that all claims for land shall be presented to the Surveyor General, who under such instructions as the Secretary may give, shall ascertain the origin, nature, character and extent of all claims to land under the laws, usages, and customs of Spain and Mexico. It seems clear to my mind that as the treaty with Mexico of 1848 guarantees the property of every citizen without additional expense, and that as the law of Congress of 1854 makes it obligatory that all claims to land should be rigidly investigated by the Surveyor General of New-mexico, that the instructions of the Secretary of the Interior corroborate both the treaty and the law of Congress, the most careful discrimination should be observed in the litigation of all land claims coming before this Office, and that the expense of the same should be incurred by the Government, especially when the Government insists upon a thorough investigation of all land claims.

As the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo secures the right of property, the Government cannot according to law compel any citizen to produce his title papers and testimony to his property, and the citizens having claims to lands in this Territory are fully aware of the protective features of the treaty, and are reluctant to go to the expense and trouble to litigate land claims which they already have possession of, they regard the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo as a sacred instrument

and the highest law of the land, which must remain inviolable and not subject to any subsequent enactments. Such was the case with the Louisiana and Florida purchases, and the United States spared no pains or expense to secure a thorough investigation of all claims existing under those treaties.

From the VIII article of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo I will quote as follows, and respectfully solicit your consideration thereon:- "Mexicans now established in territories previously belonging to Mexico and which remain for the future within the limits of the United States as defined by the present treaty, shall be free to continue where they now reside, or to remove at any time to the Mexican Republic, retaining the property which they possess in the said territories, or disposing thereof and removing the proceeds wherever they please, without their being subjected on this account to any contribution, tax or charge whatever." The same article of the treaty further states with regard to property, and in clear and positive terms, "In the said territories property of every kind now belonging to Mexicans not established there shall be inviolably respected."

Under these considerations I deemed it proper in the absence of any instructions to the contrary, to act as I have done in regard to the expenses incurred, in the investigation of the Pino claim, and the costs I have incurred to reach the facts in this case I hope, when duly reconsidered by you, will be allowed and passed to my credit. But, should you in your wisdom deem it incompatible with the public service to allow these necessary expenditures, I will cheerfully comply with your decision and be governed by the instructions contained in your letter of October 4, 1855. I will here state in connection with this subject that the United States are liable to lose extensive tracts of land in regard to the settlement of boundaries as in the case of the Pino claim. Upon one side of this claim we lose from twenty-five to fifty sections of land, arising from the fact that two boundaries are claimed, varying from one to two miles apart. This is a very important point, and in this case the land is the best known in the Territory. Now to obviate troubles of this nature the Surveyor General should have all the testimony within his reach to bear upon cases of this kind, as well as to the validity or invalidity of titles themselves. The boundaries are but very imperfectly defined, and the door to fraud is open throughout the whole field of land claim business in this Territory.

In the consideration of another point likely to arise I will suppose a case in explanation: Should an important

land claim come before me, and I had good reason to suspect the genuineness of the title papers, and in a remote part of this Territory—say near El Paso, which is about 350 miles distant—there was an individual who was well acquainted with the signatures of the Officer who executed the title papers, would not the Surveyor General be fully justifiable in sending for this individual, whose testimony in all probability would be conclusive proof of the validity or invalidity of the grant?

In my Instructions a case is cited by the Commissioner of the General Landoffice where fraudulent claims had been made out in this Territory, and urges me to be very particular in the investigation of all such claims.

With these remarks I will leave the subject to your consideration—adding that I fully believe that for the interest of the United States and of the inhabitants here, it would be better to allow this Office to procure all the data and testimony within its reach and at a reasonable cost.

I have the honor to be,
Very respectfully,
Your Obt Servant,
Wm Pelham,
Surveyor General New mexico.

Thomas A. Hendricks, Esq.,
Commissioner Genl. Landoffice,
Washington City.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
May 30th. 1856

Sir,

On the 30th. ult. I wrote you on the subject of a Stone Vault for the safe keeping of the Public Archives, and recommended an appropriation of One thousand dollars for its construction.

From the numerous thefts that have been committed in Santa Fé since that time, I am again induced to write to you on the subject and urge upon you the necessity of laying the matter before Congress, that the appropriation may be made during the present session.

At the time that the Estimates for 1857 were made, it was presumed that a Board of Commissioners would be established to adjudicate the Land Claims, and that provision would be made to cover the expenses thereof independent of the expenses of the Surveyor's

Office; Should such a Board not be established it will be necessary to add an additional estimate of Twenty five hundred dollars to meet the expenses of adjudicating Land Titles.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
June 27th 1856

Sir,

In order that I may be enabled to make regular reports at the close of each quarter, I respectfully ask a remittance sufficient to pay the salaries of Clerks in this Office for the quarter ending the 30th September 1856, and also one half of the appropriation for Incidental Expenses of this Office for the fiscal year ending the 30th June 1857.

It is necessary that the supplies, fuel, &c, for the Office should be procured before the Winter months, as a great many things that are necessary cannot be purchased in the Winter, and in order that I may be enabled to do so, I have asked the above remittance of one half of the appropriation for that purpose

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
June 30th 1856

Sir,

Herewith you will please find an account current showing the amounts received and expended by me for Surveys in this Territory

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
June 30th 1856

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to transmit a Statement of the disbursements for Incidental Expenses of this Office from the 1st April to the 30th June 1856 inclusive.

I have credited the U.S. with Voucher No. 4 of the "Rent Account" ending on the 31st December 1855 disallowed by you as per your letter of the 1st May 1856 for $14.37

The error you speak of in Voucher No. 9 of 1st qr. 1856 of $1.20 I have not corrected. I find upon examination of the Js retained in this Office that there is no error, and that the error in the J forwarded to the Genl Land Office occurred in copying; and if the person that examined the J. had added it up, he would have found the aggregate of the J correct. I herewith forward the original that it may be filed in the place of the other.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant.
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Thomas A Hendricks Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
June 30th 1856

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the quarterly account and vouchers for salaries of this office for the quarter ending the 30th June 1856.

Very respectfully
Your obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
July 9th 1856

Sir,

I respectfully request that you will forward to this office at your earliest convenience the Report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office to the 34th Congress, together with the Reports of the Surveyors General of the Public Lands

Very respectfully
Your obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Thomas A. Hendricks, Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
July 28th 1856

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to enclose a letter from General Mayers, Agent of the Pueblo Indians of New Mexico, on the subject of surveying the Pueblo lands.

I am satisfied, from information received from various reliable sources, that the difficulties spoken of by the Agent actually exist.

I have previously called the attention of the Department to this subject; and, in view of the importance of having the lands

in question surveyed at an early a day as possible for the satisfaction of the Indians in possession, I now respectfully recommend that the Surveyor General be instructed to have them surveyed as soon as the necessary appropriation is made

Very respectfully
Your obt Servant
Wm Pelham
Surv Genl of New Mexico &c

Hon. Tho. A Hendricks
Commissioner Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
August 8, 1858.

Sir:—

Enclosed you will receive a copy of a letter to the Commissioner of the General Land office, which I offer in reply to your letter of this date.

You will perceive that, so far from having been put in possession of the land by me, the claimant has been in possession of it for the last twenty-four years.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,
Wm Pelham,
Surveyor General.

His Excellency
David Meriwether,
Supt. Indian Affairs,
Santa Fé, New Mexico

A

Surveyor's Office,
Santa Fé, Newmexico,
August 31, 1856

Sir.—

The extraordinary difficulties attending the execution of the Public Surveys in Newmexico, make it necessary in my judgment to continue the policy, adopted on the suggestions contained in my letter of the 20th April 1855.

The funds placed in my hands under those suggestions having been expended, I respectfully ask a further remittance of Fifteen Thousand Dollars of the appropriation for the surveys of the Public Land and Private Land claims in this District in drafts on New York.

Very respectfully,
Your obt Servant,
Wm Pelham,
Surveyor General.

Hon Thomas A. Hendricks,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor's Office,
Santa Fé, Newmexico,
August 30, 1856.

Thomas A. Hendricks, Esq.,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington, D.C.

Sir.— I would respectfully recommend the propriety of the Survey of the Valley of the Rio Grande into Townships, in order that the regularity of the public surveys may be preserved and also enable this Office to connect the surveys of the private land claims therein. If my suggestion is deemed expedient I would respectfully ask authority to contract, at a compensation of Twelve Dollars per mile and at as early a day as practible for the surveying of the Section alluded into Townships. I deem it important to have these surveys executed in order that the surveys of the Pueblo Lands may be attached to them.

Very respectfully,
Your obt Servant,
Wm Pelham,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
August 27th 1856

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to forward the Maps, field notes and &c of Mr. John W. Garretson for the Survey of 24 miles of Guide Meridian No. 2 between Ranges 19 & 20 East through Townships 17. 18. 19 & 20, 101 Miles 34 chs & 75 lks of Standard Correction lines and 265 miles 11 chs & 70 lks of Township boundaries and Subdivisional lines, under his Contract of the 3rd April 1856

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Commissioner of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
August 30th 1856

Sir,

I regret to have to inform you that the blank Township Maps sometime since forwarded to this office have been found entirely too incorrect for any practical use, the section lines running North not being according to the scale on the Map of 40 chains to the inch.

I respectfully request that there be forwarded another and more correct supply of these Maps as soon as practicable

Very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Hon. Tho. A. Hendricks
Commissioner General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Office of the Surveyor General,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
September 29, 1856.

Sir.—

Your Circular or Letter of the 11th ultimo advising me that "the Secretary of the Interior has laid down a rule for the government of the Surveying Department of the Public Lands forbidding Surveyor General from entering into contract for the survey of the Public Domain with persons who are their immediate relatives, 'members of their families,' whose work in their official capacity it is the duty of the Surveyors General to revise and finally approve," has been received at this Office and will be observed and complied with.

Very respectfully, your obedient Servant,
Wm. Pelham,
Surveyor General New Mexico.

Hon. Tho. A. Hendricks,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
September 30th 1856

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit to you by the mail which leaves this place tomorrow morning the packages marked No. 1. 2 & 3, each one of which contains a full copy of the annual report from this Office with the exception of the duplicate copies of Abstract, Schedule and Sketch Maps, which are contained in two tin Cases also forwarded.

Very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General.

Hon. Thomas A. Hendricks
Commr. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
September 30th, 1856

Sir,

In compliance with your letter of the 11th of April 1856 I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of this Office, from October 1st 1855 to September 30th 1856.

Herewith you will please find Schedule No. 1, and Abstract No. 2, of all the papers relating to land, and of the grants found in the Archives of the Territory at this place, which have been arranged and classified as well as the nature of the documents will allow, and now form a portion of the permanent records of this Office.

The following Private Land Claims have been examined and approved by this Office, and copies of the original documents and translations, together with the testimony presented by the Claimants, and Schedule of Documents accompanying each Claim, are herewith transmitted, in triplicate, for their Confirmation by Congress: viz

No. 1. Preston Beck Jr. Land in San Miguel County
No. 2. Town of Tomé " " Valencia County
No. 3. Francisco Martinez " " Rio Arriba County

Since the establishment of this Office, Thirteen Claims of Pueblo Indians, to lands granted to them by the Government of Spain, have been examined and approved by this Office, copies of the grants and testimony are herewith transmitted, marked from No. 4 to No. 16, for the action of Congress in the premises.

The Pueblos of Taos, Santa Clara, Tesuque, San Ildefonso and Pojoaque, have been deprived of, and have lost the original title deeds to their lands, and testimony has been taken by this Office, to show that the title deeds to their lands were in existence, and their loss partially accounted for.

The following are the names of the Pueblos whose claims have been examined and approved, viz.

Jemes	in	Santa Ana	County
Acoma	"	Valencia	County
San Juan	"	Rio Arriba	"
Picuris	"	Taos	"
San Felipe	"	Bernalillo	"
Pecos	"	San Miguel	"
Cochiti	"	Santa Ana	"

Santo Domingo	in	Santa Ana County	
Santa Clara	"	Rio Arriba	"
Taos	"	Taos	"
San Ildefonso	"	Santa Fe	"
Tesuque	"	Santa Fe	"
Pojoaque	"	Santa Fe	"

The Pueblo Indians are constantly encroached upon by Mexican Citizens, and in many instances the Indians are despoiled of their best lands, I therefore respectfully recommend that these claims be confirmed by Congress as speedily as possible and that an appropriation be made to survey their lands, in order that their boundaries may be permanently fixed.

I also respectfully recommend that an appropriation be made for establishing the boundaries and to survey the Private Land Claims in this Territory, which have been approved by this Office, and confirmed by Congress.

16 Private Land Claims have been filed in this Office, since the date of the last report, making in all 31 Private Land Claims filed since January 1st. 1855, abstracts of which, in triplicate, marked R, are herewith accompanied.

The remaining 28 Land Claims filed and not acted upon by this Office are ready for examination so soon as the Claimants present the testimony upon which they rely in support of their Claims.

20 Donation Claims have been filed since the date of the last report from this Office, making a total of 32 Donation Claims filed, Abstracts of which, in triplicate, marked S, are herewith transmitted.

Surveys.

Since the first day of October 1855, 549 miles of Range, Base and Correction lines have been run, under the Contracts made with John N. Garretson, Esq. dated March 9th and May 9th 1855, which contracts have been completed, the field notes thereof filed in this Office, examined and approved, and the plats of survey constructed and transmitted to the General Land Office.

Under the Contract made with the same individual, on the 3d day of April 1856, 125 miles of Range, Base and Correction lines, and 265 Miles of Subdivision and Township lines have been run and the field notes filed in this Office. Under this Contract 23 Miles of Range,

Base and Correction lines and 431 miles of Subdivision and Township lines yet remain to be executed, which, owing to the inclemency of the weather, and the difficulty of procuring hands, will not be completed until on or about the 10th of October next, instead of the 20th of September, as before stated. Upon the completion of this Contract, the appropriation for public Surveys in this Territory will be entirely consumed.

Herewith accompanying you will please find Sketch maps, in triplicate, marked T showing the amount of Surveys executed in this Territory up to this date.

Statements U, & V. herewith forwarded exhibit estimates of appropriations required for the Support of the two branches of this Office for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1858.

In reply to your Circular of April 26th 1856, concerning a reduction in the price paid for surveying the Public Lands in this District, I have to state that it is believed that no competent and skillful Surveyors can be obtained in this Territory at lower rates than are now being paid for that service.

I again urge the propriety of so amending the law establishing this Office, as to create a Board of Commissioners to examine and decide upon the Private Land Claims in this Territory similar to those established in California, as it will be impossible to attend to all parties who have business with the Office, when the duties of both branches become pressing, with that promptness and dispatch which is necessary.

I again call your attention to the propriety of amending the Donation law of this Territory in the manner suggested in the previous report from this Office

46 official letters have been received and 55 have been forwarded from this Office in the year ending on this date.

Very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Hon. Thomas A. Hendricks
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
September 30, 1858.

Sir.—

I respectfully request that the amount appropriated at the last session of Congress—in the act approved August 18, 1858 "for providing for Fireproof Vaults for the security of the archives of the Territory,"—be transmitted to this Office at as early a period as practicable, in order to commence their construction with as little delay as possible, the Archives of the Office being in danger of being wet and spoiled at any moment, the roofs of the buildings in this place not being impervious to water.

It is entirely out of the question to purchase iron safes in this Territory of sufficient dimensions to hold the immense amount of papers already in the Office and which are daily accumulating. These documents have all to be arranged and classified in alphabetical order and in such a manner as to be convenient for reference. This arrangement necessarily occupies a very large space, and more than any safe or safes can possibly afford. Further,—these safes would have to be purchased in the States at an original cost of more than the entire appropriation, and would have to be transported in wagons across the Plains in pieces at the rate of ten cents per pound for freight—and by the time they were put together and ready to receive the archives the cost would exceed ten thousand dollars. There are no such facilities in this country as exist in other portions of the Union where water navigation is abundant and railroads intersect the whole country. It is therefore useless to entertain for a moment the idea of using iron safes.

The character of the community, as well as the nature of the buildings, in this Territory, are also different from those of any other portion of the United States: and therefore rules and precedents established for the government of other places would be entirely inapplicable to this Territory. There is no other manner in which the permanent and most important papers of the country can be preserved; but by the construction of stone vaults, where they can be kept with security; and this being the Seat of Government and the most proper place for the Records of the country, there is little probability of a necessity arising to cause them to be removed to any other place.

I therefore respectfully request that your consent, in view of the facts above stated, will be readily given to contract the

Vaults for which the appropriation was asked for and made; and, as before requested, that the means for their construction be transmitted to this Office at your earliest convenience, in order to prevent the possibility of the Records of the Office being damaged, and perhaps irretrievably lost.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,
Wm Pelham,
Surveyor General of Newmexico.

P.S.— If convenient please forward the amount in $1000 drafts on the Asst. Treasurer at New York city.
Wm Pelham.

Hon Thomas A. Hendricks,
Commissioner General Land office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
September 30th 1856

Sir,

I respectfully ask a remittance of a sum sufficient to pay the salaries of Clerks in this Office, and also to meet the Incidental Expenses of the Office for the quarter ending 31st December 1856.

I have not yet received the money to pay the Clerks in this Office, nor to meet the Incidental Expenses for the present quarter. The quarterly returns and vouchers will therefore be suspended until the money is received.

It is necessary that the money for this Office should be remitted at least two months before the expiration of the quarter in order that I may be enabled to make my returns regularly.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Hon. Thos. A. Hendricks
Commissioner Genl. Land Office
Washington D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
September 30th 1856

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the quarterly account and vouchers for salaries of this Office for the quarter ending the 30th September 1856.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commissioner of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
September 30th 1856

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to transmit a Statement of the disbursements for Incidental Expenses of this Office and Vouchers from the 1st July to the 30th September 1856 inclusive

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commissioner of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
September 30th 1856

Sir,

Herewith you will please find an account current and vouchers showing the amounts received and expended by me for Surveys in this Territory.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commissioner of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor's Office
Santa Fé, N. M. Oct 24th 1856

Sir

I have received the following Treasury Drafts payable to my order by the Asst. Treasurer U.S. New York.

No 3079 on Treas Int. Warrant No 2696 pt for $2.625—
No 3080 " " " " " " 2.000
4.625

Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surv Genl.

Samuel Casey, Esq.
Treasurer of the United States

Santa Fé, Nov. 29th 1856

Sir,

I have received the following Treasury Draft, payable to my order by the A. T. U. S. New York No 3285 on Treas Int. Warrant No 2902 for $5.000.00

Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surv. Genl.

Samuel Casey Esq
Treasurer of the United States

Santa Fé, December 29th 1856

Sir,

I have received the following Treasury Draft, payable to my order by the A. T. U. S. New York

No 3356 on Treas Int. Warrant No 2972 P. T. for $1125.00
" 3357 " " " " " " " " 1000.—
" 3357 " " " " " " " " 1000.—

Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham

Samuel Casey, Esq.
Treasurer of the United States,

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, N. M.
Dec. 28th 1856

Sir

In the execution of your Contract for Surveying a portion of the Public Lands in the Territory of New Mexico, dated the 2nd day of December 1856, you will be governed by the general Instructions to Deputy Surveyors, except in Township lines which may cross the Rio Grande. In those cases in consequence of the Known difficulty in crossing the Stream, you are authorized to Survey those lines to the Cardinal points to the river.

You are also required to survey the Military Reserve at Fort Thorn according to the Sketch herewith furnished, and connect it with the Public Surveys, for which you will be paid at the rate of twelve dollars per mile.

Very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General

Mr. W. Gamelson Esq
Deputy Surveyor

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
December 31st 1856

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the quarterly account and Vouchers for Salaries of this Office for the quarter ending the 31st December 1856

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
December 31st 1856

Sir,

Herewith you will please find a Statement of the disbursements for Incidental Expenses of this Office and Vouchers, from the 1st October to the 31st December 1856 inclusive

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
December 31st 1856

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to forward map of the survey of the line between Townships 13 & 14 N. Ranges 26, 27, 29 & 30 E and Range lines in Township 13 N. between Ranges 25 & 26 E, 26 & 27 E, 27 & 28 E, 28 & 29 E, 29 & 30 E and 30 & 31 E, under Contract of John N. Gantson dated 3rd April 1856, which you state in your letter of the 15th October 1856, had not been received

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
December 31st 1856

Sir,

I respectfully ask a remittance of a sum sufficient to pay the salaries of Clerks in this Office for the quarter ending the 31st March 1857, and also the balance of the appropriation for Incidental Expenses of this Office.

As it is found impossible to cash Drafts for large amts, you will please forward Drafts in sums to meet the Salary of each Clerk in the Office on the Assistant Treasurer at New York,

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Thomas A. Hendricks, Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
December 31st 1856

Sir,

Herewith you will please find an account current and vouchers showing the amounts received and expended by me for Surveys in this Territory for the quarter ending 31 December 1856.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Commissioner of the Gen. Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
December 30th 1856

Sir,

Herewith you will please find Contract No. 4 with John W. Garretson Esq for the Survey of Eighteen hundred miles of Township boundaries and Standard Correction lines in the Valley of the Rio Grande, also the instructions given to Mr. Garretson in relation to the Survey thereof.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General
of New Mexico

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Commissioner of the Gen. Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
March 3rd 1857

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit copies of the field notes, and the plats together with the report of A.P. Wilber Esqr, Examiner of Surveys, and the account of John W. Garretson Esqr, Deputy Surveyor for 8 miles 76 chains & 15 links of Standard Correction lines and 47 miles, 24 chains and 16 links of Township boundaries and Subdivision lines, which completes the contract entered into with that individual on the 3rd April 1856.

Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esqr
Commr. of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, N. Mexico
August 8th 1856.

Sir,

I have the honor to report that I returned to this place yesterday, having been absent near two months employed in the examination of the surveys made by John W. Garretson under contract of April 3rd 1856.

I have passed over a portion of the third correction line North, and the townships upon this line lying in the vicinity of the Rio Conchas, and the Canadian Fork or Red River— The work has been done in strict accordance with the instructions to the deputy Surveyor, and with the usual mode of conducting public surveys, I accompanied the surveying party, measured some of the lines myself; saw that the lines were properly run and marked, and the corners permanently established— The measurement of the meanders of the Canadian Fork came under my observation, and were done with great care and caution; all the work which I have examined, comprising most of the

contract has been correctly and faithfully performed.

Mr Garretson the deputy Surveyor, exercised on all occasions the greatest care in the performance of his work, leaving nothing unattended to, in running the lines, measuring distances, and making corners; at all times he was upon the lines supervising the work.

Judging from what I have seen I am satisfied that the surveying done by Mr Garretson has been faithfully performed, and agreeably to the instructions from this office

Very Respectfully
A. P. Wilbar
Clerk & Examiner
of Surveys

Wm Pelham Esqr.
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
March 3rd 1857

Sir:

United States Treasury warrants are now being sold in this Territory at a discount of from 1 to 1½ per cent and the probability is that they will continue to depreciate in value. I therefore respectfully ask for instructions in regard to the disposal of drafts which may be transmitted to this office for the purpose of obtaining specie wherewith to pay the salaries of Clerks and the Incidental Expenses of the office.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esqr
Commr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
March 31st 1857

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit my Quarterly account Current, and Vouchers for the "Incidental Expenses of this Office for the Quarter ending March 31st 1857"

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
March 31st 1857

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit my Quarterly account Current and vouchers for "Salary of the Surveyor General and clerks in his office" for the Quarter ending March 31st 1857

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General
of New Mexico

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
March 31st 1857

Sir:

I respectfully request the remittance of the balance of the appropriation for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1857, for the payment of the Salaries of the Surveyor General of New Mexico

and the Clerks in his Office, in sums similar to the drafts remitted for the pay=
=ment of the salaries for the quarter ending to day

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
March 31st 1857

Sir:

There is such a large amount of funds placed to the credit of the Governor and Superintendent of Indian Affairs, and the disbursing Officers of the United States Army in this Territory, at the Assistant Treasurers Offices in New York and Saint-Louis, held there subject to their drafts, and as there is not enough Specie, in the country to meet the demands of those drafts, I have been compelled to pay a discount of 5 per cent on draft No 4039, for $1500, remitted to this office for contingent expenses. In view of this state of affairs, I respect=fully ask for instructions how to act in the premises.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Thomas A. Hendricks
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
March 26th 1857

Sir:

I have received the following Treasury Drafts, payable to my order by the A. T. U. S. New York

No 4039,	on Treas	Warrant	No 3652 P.T.	for	$1500.00	
" 4040,	"	"	"	do	"	750.00
" 4041,	"	"	"	"	"	525.00

"4042."	"	"	"	"	"	500.00
"4043."	"	"	"	"	"	450.00
"4044."	"	"	"	"	"	450.00
"4045"	"	"	"	"	"	450.00

Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surv: Genl

Samuel Casey Esq.,
Treasurer of the United States.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
March 26. 1857

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of February 12th last, returning the contract made with John W. Garretson Esq. Deputy Surveyor, for correction.

The blanks omitted to have been filled in the bond accompanying the contract, have been duly filled, and the contract and bond are herewith returned.

There being no law or instructions requiring a specified per centage to be retained for the examination of Surveys, and, as the amount of two per centum on the entire appropriation made for public Surveys in this Territory for the present fiscal year will amply cover all the expenses incident to the examination of the Surveys executed, and as there is but one contract, and only one Deputy Surveyor executing that contract, I have deemed it unnecessary and useless to retain a larger per centage than that specified in the contract. Should this amount, however, not be sufficient to cover the expenses incidental to the examination of the work, (of which I have not the slightest apprehension) I do not hesitate in stating that Mr Garretson will promptly and cheerfully return any amount which may be required by the Department, to cover any deficiency which may arise, in the payment of the expenses incurred in the examination of the surveys executed.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
April 17th 1857

Major:

The application for a reserve for military purposes at Fort Buchanan N. Mx. will be granted, provided the lands asked for are a part of the public domain.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Major W. A. Nichols
Asst: Adjt. General
Santa Fé
N. Mx.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
May 5th 1857.

Sir:

The instructions to this office require that in all cases the original title papers shall be presented. It is also required that the chain of title shall be completed from the original grantee to the present owner.

Enclosed you will please find a printed copy of the instructions issued to this office in regard to private land claims, by which you will be guided in filing your claim.

As you may desire to retain a copy of your title papers, in case you desire to file the originals I herewith enclose the copy transmitted by you through Major Steen to this office.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Leonardo Orasco Esq.,
Care of Major E. Steen
Commdg
Fort Buchanan
N. Mx.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
May 27th 1857.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith I have the honor to transmit a supplemental account of John W. Garretson Esq. Deputy Surveyor for the amount of the per centage retained from his Contract of April 3d 1856, together with an explanatory letter from A. P. Willar Esq. Examiner of Surveys, in reference to the expenses incurred in the examination of the work under the Contract from which the per centage is retained.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
May 29th 1857.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the plat for survey of 8 miles, 76 chs, 15 lks, omitted to be forwarded with the remaining Diagrams on the 3rd day of March last.

The corrections suggested in your letter of the 16th April last, will be made, and corrected diagrams will be transmitted in due time. As the alterations to be made will not change any of the lines or make any alteration in the account of the Deputy Surveyor, I trust that the delay in transmitting the corrected plats will not cause any further delay in the settlement of Mr Garretson's accounts.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
June 3d 1857.

Sir:

In answer to your letter of the 9th of April last, I have to state that there are no documents in the archives of this office relating to the land referred to in your letter, as that portion of country formerly was a part of the State of Sonora it is probable they are to be found in the archives of that state.

Enclosed you will please find printed instructions issued by the Department of the Interior, under the act of Congress, approved July 22d 1854, by which claimants are to be governed in filing claims before this office. All the laws previously in force in the Territory of New Mexico, being extended over the Territory acquired by the Gadsden purchase, claimants to land within that Territory will be governed by the same instructions in filing their claims before this office, which they are required to do by the law above mentioned.

As the law of Congress creates this office a Court of Equity for the investigation of land titles and claims, it would be improper to give any opinion, in any case, until the case to be acted upon is brought before the Court in a proper manner.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General
of New Mexico

Edgar Conklin Esq.
S. E & Mining Co.
Cincinnatti
Ohio

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
June 30th 1857.

Sir.

I have received the following Treasury Drafts payable to my order by the Asst Treasurer U S St Louis.

No 4581 on Trea Int Warrant No 4151 pl for		$750.
" 4582		500.
" 4583		500.
" 4584		500.
" 4585		500.
4586		375
		$3.125.00

Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Sur Genl.

Samuel Casey Esq.
Treasurer of the United States.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
June 30th 1857

Sir:

I respectfully request the remittance of a sum sufficient to pay the salaries of the Surveyor General of New Mexico, and the clerks in his office, for the quarter ending September 30th 1857 in drafts on the assistant Treasurer at New York for the following amounts

1 Draft for the Surveyor General	$750. 00
1 do do " chief clerk	525. 00
5 do " clerks in his office of $450 each.	

I respectfully request that the drafts be drawn on the Assistant Treasurer at New York, and not on St. Louis, as the last remittance was made as it is difficult to dispose of them when drawn on the latter place.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commr Genl Land office
Washington D.C.

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
June 30th 185 4

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit my account Current and Vouchers for "Office Rent Fuel and incidental Expenses" of this office, for the Quarter ending June 30th 185 4

Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A Hendricks Esq.
Commr Genl Land office
Washington
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
June 30th 1854

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit my Quarterly Account Current and Vouchers for the Salary of the Surveyor General and clerks in his office, for the Quarter ending June 30th 1854

Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq:
Commr Genl Land office.
Washington
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
June 30th 1857

Sir:

The remittance made for the payment of salaries for this quarter, not being of the proper size to pay to the Clerks in this office, I have been compelled to dispose of them in the market at a discount of 5 per cent which is the lowest rate of discount at which specie can be obtained on drafts.

The law creating this office fixes the salary of the Surveyor General at $2000 per annum which under the present system of transmitting Treasury Drafts, is reduced to $1850 less than the salary fixed by law.

The clerks in this office, some of whom are men of family, are compelled to wait for three months before they receive their salary and when the remittance for their pay is received, the principal of this office is compelled to offer the drafts for sale at a discount of 5 per cent in order to enable him to pay the amounts which may be due.

I do not believe and I trust it is not the intention of the government or the Department to require the Principal of this office to submit to the loss which may result in disposing of U. S. Treasury warrants for specie in order to meet the demands upon the office for salaries & contingent expenses.

This statement is therefore made in order that the Department may take such steps as are necessary to prevent such unjust losses to the Principal & clerks in this office in future.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General of New Mexico

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
July 1st 1857.

Sir:

In order that the Surveyor General may have an opportunity of laying in a supply necessary for the use of his Office, sufficient to last during the fiscal year, I respectfully request, a remittance of the sum appropriated for incidental expenses of this Office. The reason for asking a remittance of the whole sum at this time is, that the sum appropriated is scarcely sufficient to defray the necessary expenses, and as the mode of remitting half of the appropriation at a time will throw the second remittance, in the winter months during which the mail has failed to reach this country for the last two winters.

Drafts payable at New York are prefferable, to those payable at any other depository of the public moneys but in consequence of the scarcity of coin and the great amount of drafts in market even those are subject to a discount of five per cent to obtain the money.

Drafts of the size of $500 each can be used with more facility than a large denomination.

Very Respectfully
Your obdt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Hon. Thomas A. Hendricks
Comr. of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 10th 1857.

Sir.

I have this day transmitted to the General Land Office the "Return of Property required by the Secretary of the Treasury in letter of Instructions of 17th December 1856.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servant
W Pelham
Surveyor General

Hon Howell Cobb.
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington City.
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 10th 1857.

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to transmit "Return of Property" from the 17th August 1854 to June 30th 1857, required by letter of instructions from the Secretary of the Treasury dated December 17th 1856.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A Hendricks Esq
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 15th 1857.

Sir,

I respectfully request that a copy of the report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, transmitted to Congress, at its last session by the Secretary of the Interior, be transmitted to this office to be placed among the records, none having been received up to this date

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A Hendricks Esqr
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé. New Mexico
July 31. 1857

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the list of persons in the service of the United States, at this office, required by your letter of instructions of the 22nd of May last.

I respectfully request that when the "Biennial Register" is published, that a copy of the same be transmitted to be placed on file among the records of this office

Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq:
Commissioner of the General Land office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fé N. M.
August 7th, 1857

Sir:

On executing the surveys embraced in your contract of the 29th ult: you will proceed to the nearest line of the public surveys to the valle grande and extend a line into it upon which you will base the surveys of those valleys. If however it shall be found impracticable to extend a direct line of the public surveys into the valle grande in consequence of impassable mountains intervening you will do so by offsetts or by meandering the pass to the said valley. After you have reached the valley with your line as directed you will complete the surveys as you progress, surveying the country into Townships and sections in accordance with the general instructions herewith furnished you. You will survey all the lands that are susceptible of cultivation and the timbered lands adjacent thereto, which may be required by the settlers, to furnish them with timber. If in the survey of any Township, mountains shall intervene, which are abrupt and impassable, you are authorized to meander their base, and exclude them from the survey always taking care to make whole Townships and sections while practicable to do so, and when the lands shall be valuable either for cultivation or timber.

Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

John W. Garretson Esq.
Deputy Surveyor
Santa Fé
N. M.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
August 29th 1857.

Sir

In consequence of the indisposition of the Chief Clerk of this Office the transmission of the 39 copies of my Annual Report and estimates for appropriations for the next fiscal year will be delayed until the 15th of September when it will be forwarded with the mail which leaves here on that day.

Thomas A. Hendrick Esq.
Comr. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

(Signed)

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt. Servant.
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
September 12th 1857

Sir

Herewith I have the honor to transmit contract No. 5 entered into with John W Garretson Esq for the extention of the lines of the Public Surveys into that portion of country known as the Valles situate north West of the city of Santa Fé west of the Rio Grande; run the exterior boundaries and subdivide into sections such portions of said Valles not to exceed three hundred miles, provided that amount of land susceptible of subdivision can be found in said Valley

Mr Garretson has desisted from completing the contract made with him in December last, on account of the war now being waged against the Apache Indians, by Colonel Bonneville on the Gila. He has already been attacked by the Indians and his animals stolen – It is impossible to procure a sufficient escort and he does not desire to expose his life and that of his men in a locality so dangerous as the field of his operations now is

During last Spring I received a petition signed by a large number of persons asking that the "Valles", located about forty miles from here should be subdivided in order to allow settlers to go upon it. As there was no time to

to obtain the consent of the Department to make a contract before the Winter sets in, and as a large number of persons desired to go upon the Land this Fall. I have assumed the responsibility of making the contract herewith transmitted which I trust will meet with your approval

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A Hendricks Esq
Commr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Synopsis of the Report of the Surveyor General of New Mexico from October 1st 1856 to September 15th 1857.

Surveys.

Under the contract entered into with John N. Garrison dated April 3d 1856. Eight miles, seventy six chains and fifteen links of standard and correction lines and four hundred and seventy one miles, twenty four chains and sixteen links of exterior Township boundaries and subdivision lines have been run, and the field notes thereof filed in this Office, examined and approved and the plats executed and transmitted to the general land Office. With these surveys the contract of April 3d. 1856, is completed.

On the second day of December 1856 a contract was entered into with John N. Garrison for the Survey of "One thousand eight hundred miles of Township boundaries and standard and correction lines in the Valley of the Rio Grande del Norte" under this contract 36m. 65c. or of correction lines and 692. or. 83 of exterior Township and subdivision lines have been run

And the field notes filed in this Office and now under examination.

On the 29th day of July 1857 a contract was made with John N. Garrison to extend the lines of the public Surveys into that portion of Country known as the Valles, situate north west of the City of Santa Fe, west of the Rio Grande, run the exterior boundaries and subdivide into sections such portions of said Valles not to exceed three hundred miles provided that amount of land, susceptible of subdivi-

sion can be found in said Utah.

This work is now being executed.

Donation Claims

Forty Eight Donation claims have been filed since the date of last report, making in all Eighty Donation Claims which have been filed.

Private Land Claims.

Twenty six private Land Claims have been filed since the date of the last report, making in all Fifty seven Private Land Claims filed, 13 of which have been taken up for examination of which three viz C. Beaubien, Cano Colorado & H. Stephenson approved and transmitted to the General Land Office, on the 31st December last, and which I respectfully ask be included, in this report, the remaining nine will be transmitted with my annual report.

The correspondence with the General Land Office and in relation to Surveys and private Land Claims is brought up to date.

I respectfully recommend further Legislation in regard to the Private Land Claims in this Territory. The number of Claims filed since the establishment of this Office clearly manifests the apathy with which Claimants respond to the call made upon them to bring forward their claims and unless further steps are taken on the premises, it will be impossible to extend the lines of the public surveys with security to the government, or ascertain which are undisputed public lands

I also ask for authority to cause Donation Claims located upon undisputed public lands, where many are situated in a body, to be subdivided, so as to prevent constant dispute and contention between the claims on account of not knowing the boundaries of their respective Claims.

The amount appropriated for the purchase of books for the use of this Office is entirely too small, and with it not one half of the books required can be obtained, as many of them will have to be imported I therefore request that you recommend a further appropriation of $1000. to be made.

I also respectfully request that the appropriation for Wood Fuels Stationery and the Contingent expenses of the Office be increased to $5000 per annum instead of 3000. as at present the amount being to small to cover all the expenses of the Office during the year.

As the vault for which an appropriation was made at the first session of the last Congress has entirely failed to accomplish the object for which the appropriation was made and which has been wantonly squandered I have estimated for another appropriation of $2000 to accomplish the object for which the first one was asked for.

Estimate

of appropriations required for the Office of the Surveyor General of New Mexico, for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1859.

For Salary of the Surveyor General	$3.000	00
" Salary of Translator	2.000	00
" Salaries of Clerks and Messenger	12.000	00
" Incidental Expenses, Stationery, House Rent &c.	5.000	00
" Establishing boundaries of Claims approved.	5.000	00
" Surveying Private Land Claims and Pueblo grants	30.000	00
" The construction of a vault for the preservation of the archives of the Surveyors General Office	2.000	00
" The Purchase of Spanish and Mexican Law Books, the last appropriation not being sufficient.	$1.000	00
	$60.000	00

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
September 15th 1857.

Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
September 15th 1857.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit a synopsis of my annual report and Estimates of appropriations, in triplicate, for the use of this Office for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1859.

Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servant
(Signed) Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas J. Hendricks

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
September 30th 1857 —

Sir

In accordance with instructions, I respectfully submit the following Report of the operations of this office, in the different branches confided to its care, from 1st October 1856 up to this date

Surveys,

The contract entered into with John W Garretson Esq on the 3d of April 1856 has been completed, the field notes returned to this office, examined and approved and the plats executed and transmitted to your office.

On the 2nd of December 1856 a contract was entered into with the said John W Garretson Esq. for the survey of one thousand eight hundred miles of Standard and correction, and exterior Township lines in the valley of the Rio Grande. Under this contract 36 miles 68 chains and 02 links of Correction lines and 692 miles and 03 chains of Township and subdivision lines have been run.

The execution of this contract has been attended with much danger to the Contractor on account of the hostility of the Indians located West of the Rio Grande Greatly increased by an expedition made against them last Summer when several Indians were Killed and Wounded, and war parties are now on the constant March seeking for opportunities to revenge themselves for injuries which they have sustained. Mr Garretson had his animals stolen from him last Spring by the Indians, and although they were recovered, he lost several days in accomplishing the object, and under a heavy expense during the whole period.

Great praise is due to Captain Alfred Gibbs of the Regt. of Mounted Rifles U.S.A. who was directed by the Commanding Officer at Fort Fillmore to proceed with a portion of his Company in pursuit of the Indians for the promptness and energy manifested by him in overtaking them and his bravery in the engagement had with them, having received a wound side from a lance, from which I am happy to state he has entirely recovered. Great praise is also due to Mr Garretson and Mr Lewis Dickens one of his employees who accompanied Captain Gibbs to slaughter the Indians

and recapture the animals, all of which were recovered with the exception of one mule. Killed by the Indians for food.

I respectfully recommend that the General Commanding the Department be directed by the proper authority to furnish Deputy Surveyors whose fields of labor are distant from the larger settlements with a sufficient escort to protect them from attacks by hostile bands of Indians. Unless this be done the public surveys in this Territory will be greatly retarded as no Deputy Surveyor will be willing to risk his life and property for the remuneration allowed by the government for his services

As Mr Garretson was compelled for a time to abandon his work on the Rio Grande for the reason above given a contract was made with him on the 29th July last, to extend ~~tend~~ the lines of the Public Surveys into the Valles situate about 40 miles northwest of this place. and subdivide not more than Three hundred Miles thereof provided that amount of land susceptible of cultivation was found. This work is now being executed. The entire Surveys executed in this Territory since October 1st 1856 amount to 45 miles 61 chains 17 links of Standard and correction lines and 1169 miles 25 chains and 9 links of exterior Township and Subdivision lines

Herewith I have the honor to transmit a Sketch map, showing the Surveys executed since the date of my last annual Report.

The distance between the Eastern and Western boundaries of this Territory being very great, and as the Rocky mountains run through its entire center. I respectfully recommend that a meridian to be styled the Fort Buchanan Meridian and Base and Standard parallels be run West of the Rocky Mountains passing through Fort Buchanan as shewn on the Sketch map herewith accompanying, and that the Deputy Surveyor entrusted with that duty be authorized to call upon the Commander at Fort Buchanan for a suitable escort to protect him against the Indians.

Applications have been made to this Office for the Survey of Several Military Reserves in this Territory, one of them Fort Thorn being in the immediate vicinity of Mr Garretson's labors. I have caused to be surveyed and the Field notes are now under examination in this Office — Those of Fort Stanton and Fort Stanton are so distant from any of the lines of the Public Surveys, that a compliance with the request of the Commander of the Department

would be attended with a greater expense to the Government than I feel authorized to incur; I have consequently recommended to the Commanding General that he assign an Officer of the Topographical Corps to that duty, which has been done, and he is now engaged in surveying the reserve at Fort Stanton.

As the private Land Claims, granted by the government of Spain and Mexico are spread over the entire portion of this Territory which is settled; the public Surveys will necessarily be confined, to those portions distant distant from the principal settlements until these claims are finally severed from the Public Domain by the action of Congress.

Several Donation Claims arising under the act of July 22d 1854 are entitled to patents, the period of four years required by law having expired These also await the final disposal of Private Land Claims before they can be surveyed and patented

When such action is taken so as to ascertain which are undisputed Public Lands and subject to entry and donations, I respectfully recommend that portion of the law requiring Donation Claimants to conform to legal subdivisions to be repealed where claims are located beyond the lines of surveys, and that this office be authorized to survey them separately and independent of any such surveys, in order to avoid constant difficulties and contentions between claimants

Forty-eight Donation Claims have been filed in this office since the date of my last report making a total of eighty claims filed, an abstract of which marked "A" is herewith transmitted.

I also repeat the recommendation that the donation Law be amended in the manner suggested in my report for the year 1855.

Private Land Claims.

Twenty-six Private Land Claims having been filed since October 1st 1856, an abstract of which marked "B" is herewith transmitted making a total of fifty seven Private Land Claims only filed since this office

was established.

× Sixteen Private Land Claims have been taken up, examined and confirmed since October 1st 1856, three of which were transmitted on the first of January last, the remaining thirteen are herewith transmitted.

Those transmitted on the 1st January are –

No. 14	Charles Beaubien	Taos County.
" 29	Town of Casa Colorada	Valencia County.
32	Hugh Stephenson et al	Doña Ana County.

I respectfully request that these three cases be transmitted to Congress with the following thirteen now forwarded viz:

No. 8	Tecolote	San Miguel County
" 11	Donaciano Vigil	Do Do Do
" 16	E. W Eaton	Santa Fé County
" 39	John Scolly et al	Taos County.
" 25	John Lamy	Santa Fé County
" 40	Town of Chilili	Bernalillo County
" 41	Antonio Sandoval	San Miguel County.
" 43	Town of Belen	Valencia County.
" 44	Serafin Ramirez	Bernalillo County.
" 48	Charles Beaubien, Guadalupe Miranda	Taos County.
" 50	Jose Leandro Perea	Bernalillo County.
" 53	Ceran St Vrain	" Taos County.
*" 17	Heirs of C Vigil	*Alexander Valle San Miguel County –

These cases are numbered in the order in which they were filed and entered on the Docket. ×

The people of the Territory are informed (in many cases by designing persons) that decision of this office on their claims, – make them no more secure than they are at present; that it will occasion them a great amount of unnecessary labor, and in many cases expense in paying witnesses which may be required in the investigation of claims before this office, and therefore very few have responded to the notice requesting them to present their claims at as early a day as practicable. I therefore respectfully repeat my former recommendation for the establishment of a Board of Commissioners to investigate and decide upon Private Land Claims in New Mexico including those existing in the Territory recently acquired from Mexico, styled the Gadsden Purchase. It should be required to hold at

least one session at the County seat or other convenient point in each County, and should have full power to compel the presentation of claims under penalty of the forfeiture of the Land. Unless this Board is established, or further legislation is had on the subject, it will be impossible to ascertain which are undisputed Public Lands, and which are Private Property; the Public Surveys will be greatly retarded; Donation Claimants will be subjected to many vexations and doubts in taking up lands and in many cases will lose their improvements on account of the uncertainty of their right to settle upon them.

As full testimony before the Board if established not only in relation to the grants themselves, but also in regard to the boundaries of claims, as a matter of economy as well as being the means of obtaining more reliable information in regard to the Survey of those claims after their final confirmation, I would suggest that the Surveyor General be made a member of the Board if created.

In my estimate of appropriations, I have included Five thousand dollars for the purpose of allowing the Surveyor General to take testimony on the ground, in those private Claims which may be finally confirmed wherein boundaries are not well proven, and which require ocular proofs to establish them.

As many English, Spanish and Mexican works are absolutely required in the investigation of Private Land Claims in this Territory, and the amount of Five Hundred dollars appropriated at the last session of Congress not being sufficient to purchase one half of those which are indispensable I have estimated for an additional sum of one thousand and five Hundred Dollars.

Should the Land Board recommended be established, this Library can be transferred to the Commissioner and returned to this office when their Labors are completed.

Further legislation is recommended in regard to mines and mineral Lands in this Territory, which were worked and owned by individuals prior to the session of the country to the United States. In many cases, no title deeds are held by claimants to mineral Lands, they have been lost and destroyed by several means, although the owners possess a just and

equitable title to the lands so claimed.

The prompt action of the government is respectfully requested in this matter, so as to avoid endless suits and difficulties between Claimants and persons who may hereafter settle in the Country with the intention of working the many rich mines found in it.

I also request that the appropriation for the contingent expenses, House Rent, Fuel &c for this Office be increased from three thousand to five thousand Dollars. Materials, Stationery &c required for the use of the Office being more costly here than in the State of California, and in many cases articles which cannot be obtained here have to be purchased in the Eastern States and brought out by mail at a cost of fifty cents per pound in the Winter season, from Independence to this place

I have also estimated for thirty thousand Dollars for the Survey of such private Land claims and Pueblo grants as may be finally confirmed by Congress.

The appropriation for a vault made at the request of this Office, for the preservation of the Records at the first session of the last Congress, has been entirely consumed without accomplishing the object intended - Two small holes in the cellar of the new state House building have been arched over, and that is all that has been done. The building is yet without a roof, and likely to be so for some years to come, the places called the vaults, are without floors or doors, and when completed would have no ventilation or light, and entirely unfit for keeping valuable papers, and only and only adapted to storing coal or wood, for fuel. The appropriation having been entirely consumed by Governor Merriwether, the Superintendent of Public Buildings, to no purpose, I respectfully request that an appropriation of Two Thousand Dollars, be made for the purpose of constructing a suitable place for the preservation of the title deeds, of private Land Claims, and other records, relating to lands, and landtitles in this Territory, now in the Custody of the Surveyor General - The correspondence with the Department and in relation to surveys and private Land Claims is brought up to date

Herewith I have the honor to

accompany estimate of appropriation marked "C" for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1859.

Very Respectfully Your
Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General
of New Mexico

Thomas A Hendricks Esq:
Commissioner of the General
Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe New Mexico
September 30th 1857.

Sir,

I have received the following Treasury Drafts, payable to my order by the A. T. U. S. New York No. 5751 $750.00, 5752 $525.00, 5753 $500.00, 5754 $500.00, 5755 $450.00, 5756 $450.00, 5757 $450.00, 5758 $450.00, 5759 $450, 5760 $225.00

Your obdt Svt
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General,

Samuel Casey Esq
Treasurer of the United States,

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
September 30th 1857

Sir;

I respectfully request a remittance of a sum sufficient to pay the Salaries of the Surveyor General and clerks in his Office for the quarter ending December 31st 1857 in drafts on the Asst Treasurer U S at New York if no other means can be devised to obtain the Amount necessary in Specie the following Amounts Viz:

1 Draft for $750.00

1	do -	do	$ 525.00
5	do.	do	450.00

Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servt
Wm Pelham
Sur Genl

Thomas A Hendricks Esq:
Commissioner General Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
September 30th 1857.

Sir
Herewith I have the honor to transmit my Annual Report contained in seven packages, marked from No 1 to 7 inclusive.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt: Servt:
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A Hendricks Esq:
Commissioner General Land Office
Washington city
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
September 30th 1857 —

Sir.
I respectfully request that if the Sketch map accompanying my annual report for this year be lithographed that 250 copies be printed on good drawing paper and forwarded to the Office so that the surveys executed in future years may be added thereon and transmitted with the annual report. The ones sent out by you are very cumbrous and are printed of common printing paper, upon which no alterations can be made or lines drawn without running

Thomas A Hendricks Esq
Comr Genl Land Office

Very Respectfully Your Obedt Servt
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
September 30th 1857.

Sir,

I respectfully request that the estimates now forwarded with my annual report may be used instead of those transmitted on the 15th inst — I was in my bed sick at the time they were made and in such a condition items of appropriation were omitted which are inserted in those herewith transmitted

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt. Servt
W. Pelham

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq:
Comr Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
October 3d 1857

Sir:

In the execution of the Contract entered into with you, on this date, for the survey of a portion of the public lands in the Territory of New Mexico, you will be governed by the laws of the United States and the General Instructions to Deputy Surveyors issued by the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

You will run your Township lines to the river whenever it is practicable so to do, and will subdivide into Sections, such portions as are adapted to cultivation and the nature of the country will allow. You are also hereby authorized to extend the 4th Correction line North, in a westwardly direction as far as required, provided it becomes necessary so to do, for running which line you will be allowed at the rate of Twenty Dollars per mile.

Very Respectfully
Your obt Servant
W. Pelham
Surveyor General

Reuben E. Clements Esq.
Deputy Surveyor
Santa Fé New Mexico

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
October 6, 1857

Sir:

In the execution of the Contract made with you on the 5th inst, for the survey of a portion of the Public Lands in New Mexico, you will be governed by the laws of the United States applicable to the case, and to the General Instructions issued by the Commissioner of the General Land Office to Deputy Surveyors.

You will confine your labors to that portion of country lying between the Base line, and the 3d Correction line, North, joining your exterior boundary lines to any which may have been run to the lines above mentioned when within the range of your work.

You will lay off into Townships, both sides of the Rio Grande, and the Principal Meridian also, if necessary and extend the Correction lines as far as may be required to accomplish that object.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General

R. P. Kelley Esq.
Deputy Surveyor
Santa Fé
New Mexico.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
October 12 1857

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit my quarterly account for "Salary of the Surveyor General and Clerk in his office" for the Quarter ending September 30: 1857

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Commr Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
October 12, 1857.

Sir.—

I respectfully request that you estimate to Congress at its next session for the sum of $1500 to cover deficiencies in the appropriation for "Fuel, Office Rent, &c.", for this Office for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1858, to include the amount disallowed in my accounts for **mileage** incurred in summoning witnesses and paying their expenses and per diem in the case of "Preston Beck, jr., assignee of heirs of Juan C. Pino," as stated in my accounts for "Rent of Office, &c." for the 3rd Quarter, 1855

The amount estimated for, by this Office, for the two departments under its care was $6000. In your estimate to Congress you only included $3000, which amount was appropriated and will not be sufficient to meet the current expenditures of the Office up to the end of the Fiscal Year

You will perceive by my account for the 3rd Quarter, 1857, now transmitted, that over one thousand dollars has already been expended. The expenditure of the three remaining quarters will amount to three times that amount, if not more

I therefore trust that you will estimate for the amount as above requested.

Very respectfully, your obt. servant,
Wm. Pelham,
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks, Esq.,
Commissioner Genl. Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
October 12, 1857.

Sir.—

Herewith I have the honor to transmit Quarterly Account for Rent of Office, Fuel, Stationery, &c., for the Quarter ending September 30, 1857.

Very respectfully, your obt. servant,
Wm. Pelham,
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks, Esq.,
Commissioner Genl. Land Office,
Washington City,
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
October 12, 1857.

Sir.—

I respectfully request that the balance of the appropriation for "Rent of Office, Fuel, &c," for this Office, amounting to $1500, be transmitted by return mail in Drafts on the Assistant Treasurer at New York (provided specie cannot be transmitted) for $500 each in order that it may reach here before the expiration of the present Quarter— the amount now remaining in my hands not being sufficient to meet the amounts due at that time

Very respectfully,
Your obedient, Servant,
Wm Pelham,
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks, Esq.,
Commissioner Gen. Land Office,
Washington City, D. C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
October 11, 1857.

Sir.—

Large numbers of sellers frequently desire to settle in a box on portions of the public Lands which are not surveyed; and this Office— being at a great distance from the seat of Government, and authority to have such Lands surveyed is only obtained after the lapse of a considerable period of time thereby frequently causing the loss of a whole year to the seller— I respectfully request that general authority be given to this Office to cause the public lands in this Territory to be surveyed to the full extent of the appropriation made at the last session of Congress, without any further application to the Department.

Very respectfully,
Your obt Servant
Wm Pelham,
Surveyor General.

Hon Thomas A. Hendricks
Commissioner General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
October 30th 1857.

Sir

You are hereby appointed an "Examiner of Surveys" for the purpose of examining the Surveys executed by John W. Gibbons Esq. Deputy Surveyor under his contract of 1st December 2d 1856, which is now being executed.

You will be allowed at the rate of Five Dollars per day for the period of Eight days, for the service above mentioned, and you will make out an account against the United States for the amount ($40) and transmit the same to this office with your Report on the Surveys examined.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Jno. A. Viny Esq.
Deputy Surveyor.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
October 30. 1857.

Sir

Enclosed please find a blank application for the donation claimed by P. Do. Tully under the act of July 1854.

The declaration attached to the application can be sworn to before a Justice of the Peace or Clerk of the Court.

The blank in the declaration must be filled with the date when he entered upon the land.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
David V. Whiting
Chief Clerk.

Dr. M. Steck
Fort Thorn
N. Mo.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
October 30. 1857.

Sir

By your letter of August 29 1857 I am required to reserve for Military purposes by order of the President of the United States sections 9 to 16 inclusive in Township 18 north Range 20 East New Mexico. Now I to be guided in the reservation of section 16 by this last requirement from your Office of the date above mentioned or by the laws of Congress and instructions previously issued to me in regard to said Section 16?

I respectfully beg leave to call your attention to the fact that section 16 in each township, as also section 36 are reserved by the organic Law of this Territory approved September 9th 1850 for school purposes — This same reservation is also made in the act of July 22d 1854 establishing this Office, and is also referred to in your instructions.

I shall therefore await your answer before making the necessary notations on the books and plats of this Office as required by you.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington D.C.

Surveyors Office
Santa Fé N. M.
Nov. 3d. 1857.

Sir:

The peculiar class of people who inhabit this country renders it necessary for the safety of the records and public property to provide peculiar means of defense. If a door shall be left unlocked a moment the room is probably entered and some article stolen. It is equally important to have the rear of a building defended. The thieves enter a back yard either by scaling the wall or let themselves down from the roofs of the adjoining houses, and dig passages through the back walls of a room which are made of sun dried bricks and effect an entry from the rear. The rear of the building in which the surveyors Office, is kept, is enclosed by a high wall and the building itself is the very best and the safest which is in the whole City of Santa Fé. It entirely safe from fire is a

very convenient and commodious house well located for the use of a surveyors Office and is as safe from incursions of thieves as any building in the place. Most of the store houses are guarded all night by private sentinels kept by the owners of the stores, as well as having a severe watch dog or two in the back yard which is esteemed necessary in all cases. I sleep in one room of my Office and keep a constant and vigilant lookout to preserve the records, and also the Porter who is a careful and prudent young man sleeps in the room in which the land titles and field notes of the surveys are kept which has so far preserved the records secure. I have however been at the expense of keeping a large watch dog for the purpose of keeping the thieves out of the back yard and have not so far made any charge for such expense. As this would be a novel charge, I have thought proper to ask instructions before I shall expend an item in to cover it. I take my meals at the Exchange Hotel consequently have no refuse meats to sustain a dog and each bb of meat is a pounds average worth 25 cts. it is an expense considerable when taken for a year, for the pocket of an individual taking into consideration the fact that it is not made for his own benefit, but for the preservation of the public property.

The object of this communication is to give you an idea of the prevalency of robberies as well as the care which is observed to secure the safe keeping of the public records and to be informed if it be advisable to charge the expense of keeping a watch dog which in my opinion is indispensable.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servant
Wm Pelham

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
November 14. 1857.

Sir: Herewith I have the honor to transmit plats of the subdivision of Township No 13 North Ranges No 27, 29, & 30 East which have been changed in the manner directed in your letter of April 16th last, and which are intended as a substitute for those formerly transmitted to your Office

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Comr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
November 13, 1857.

Sir.—

You are hereby appointed an Examiner of Surveys for the purpose of inspecting the Surveys now being executed by R. E. Clements, Esq., Deputy Surveyor, under his contract of 3° October last.

You will proceed immediately to the field of Mr. Clements' labors and make the examination above referred to, of which you will give a full report on your return.

You will be allowed all necessary expenses which may be incurred by you on your trip, and will make out an account against the United States for the amount you may so expend, and present the same to this Office with your Report.

Very respectfully,
Your obt Servant,
Wm Pelham,
Surveyor General.

Wm Drew, Esq.
Present.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
October 20. 1857.

Sir: You are hereby appointed a ~~Deputy~~ Examiner for the purpose of examining the surveys now being executed by R. E. Clements Esq. Deputy Surveyor under his contract No. 6. dated October 3rd 1857.

You will be allowed and paid at the rate of Five dollars per diem during the time you are engaged in the examination of the above work, and will make out an account against the United States for whatever sum may be due you, which you will present to this Office in duplicate together with your report.

Very Respectfully
Your obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Stephenson Archer Esq.
Deputy Surveyor
Examiner of R. E. Clements

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
November 27th 1857.

Sir.

Herewith I have the honor to transmit contract No. 6. entered into on 3rd Oct. last, with Ro. E. Clements Deputy Surveyor for the survey of Three hundred miles in the Valley of the Rio Grande north of the 4th Correction line north, also contract No. 7 entered into with Ro. P. Kelley Deputy Surveyor for the survey of Five hundred and seventy miles in the Valley of the Rio Grande north of the Base line; both of which I trust, will meet with your approval.

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Comr. of the General Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
November 27th 1857.

Sir:

In the execution of your contract No. 8 of the 21st inst. for the survey of a portion of the Public Lands in New Mexico you will be governed by the laws of the United States and the General Instructions issued to Deputy Surveyors by the Commissioner of the General Land Office

You will extend the 2d Correction line in a westwardly direction from the Upwart to where it was run by J. W Garretson Esq. under a former contract, as far as the mountain as practicable and you will lay off into Townships that portion of country between the 2d & 3rd Correction lines north in the Valley of the Pecos River and vicinity, closing on the standard line and and connecting with the Corners established thereon, a descriptive list of which corners is herewith furnished.

You will make out the field notes of the surveys executed by you according to the form which will be given you by this Office

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Ro. E. Clements Esq.
Deputy Surveyor
Present.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
December 1st 1857.

General:

A contract was entered into by this Office on the 21st ult. with R. E. Clements Esq. Deputy Surveyor, for the Survey of a portion of the Public Lands, lying on the Pecos River and its vicinity.

Since the execution of that contract, and while Mr. Clements was preparing to proceed to the field of his labors, information has been received of the hostile condition of some of the Indian tribes, as will be seen by the enclosed copy of a letter received by this Office, from Mr. Clements, rendering it extremely dangerous for such a small party as his to proceed with its labors. I therefore respectfully request, if it can be done without manifest injury to the public service in your Department that a sufficient escort be furnished to Mr Clements to protect his party from any molestation from the Indians, during the time he may require to complete his contract.

Very Respectfully
Your obdt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Hon. Brig. Genl. John Garland
Commanding
Dept of New Mexico
Present.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
December 14th 1857.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the account, field notes and plat of the survey of one hundred and seven miles seventy four chains and forty links of Exterior Township Lines in the valley of the Rio Grande by H. P. Kelley Esq Deputy Surveyor under his contract No. 7, of October 3d 1857 together with the account and Report of A. P. Wilbar Esq Examiner of Surveys.

Mr Wilbar being a clerk in the Office at the time the examination was made has not charged any per diem pay in his account.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commr. of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe' New Mexico
November 30th 1857.

Sir:

The act of July 22d 1854, establishing the Office of Surveyor General for this Territory, attaches thereto the additional duty of examining and reporting upon all claims to land, arising under the former governments existing in the Territory prior to its cession to the United States; a duty considered to be of sufficient importance by Congress in California, for the establishment of a board of commissioners to decide solely upon the private Land claims existing in that State. When that board was established in 1850 an appropriation was made by Congress of 50.000, to pay the salaries of the Commissioners and incidental expenses vide Statutes at large Vol. 9. p. 616. At the next session of Congress, a similar appropriation was made for the same object — Statutes at Large 1851-1852, p. 94 — At the Session of 1852-1853, the appropriation made the two previous years, not being sufficient, it was increased to $75.000, being a total of $175.000 in three years. The salaries of the commissioners were also increased to $8.000 per annum — Statutes at Large 1852. 1853. p. 208. At the session of 1854-1855 Congress appropriated for the Land commission in California the sum of $120.000, in addition to an unexpended balance, remaining on hand. Statutes at Large 1854, 1855, page 664. These appropriations were all exclusive of those made for the Office of Surveyor General.

There are more land claims, and their examination and adjudication, in this Territory are more arduous and tedious probably than those which have arisen in California, requiring more verbal proof on account of the loss and destruction of the original title deeds in many instances, and consequently occupying more time and involving a larger expenditure. Notwithstanding this, no provision has been made by Congress, or recommended by the proper Department, to cover the outlay necessary to be incurred in order to carry out the provisions of the law, although estimates have been sent from this Office for that purpose, which will be seen in the report from this Office for the year 1856, contained in the Report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office to the Secretary of the Interior in December 1856. page 339.

By referring to the Report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, above mentioned, you will perceive that he estimates for the same amount for salaries and incidental expenses for this Office as he does for the Offices of the Surveyors General of the Territories of Washington & Utah, are not encumbered with the additional duties entailed upon this Office.

The Surveyor General of this Territory has, to all intents and purposes two separate and distinct Departments under his charge, requiring two different setts of Clerks, and nearly double the amount now appropriated for Office Rent, fuel, Stationery &c. notwithstanding which 12.000 only are appropriated for salaries, expenses and all, for this Office, while the

Surveyor General of California receives $15.000 for salaries alone, independent of the amount appropriated for Office Rent, fuel, Stationery &c. The amount appropriated for this Office is doubtless intended to cover the entire expenditure of of both of its branches, which are probably more expensive, in proportion, to that of California, and you are well aware that every thing is at least 25 p°c high here than there.

The first expenditure made by me in this Territory was for mileage and per diem of witnesses in the case of Preston Beck jr. assignee of the heirs of Juan C. Pino, amounting to over $ 300, and which I contend, I was authorized under the law, to incur; yet, this amount was disallowed in the settlement of my accounts on the ground, at first that it was unauthorized, and when this position was no longer tenable, that there was no appropriation to cover it

As before stated, estimates were transmitted with my annual report for 1856, for appropriations for the two Departments under my Charge; the Commissions of the General Land Office, however in his estimates, which of course are preferred by Congress, paid in regard to my estimates, and consequently the additional appropriation of $3000, for the Claim Department, was not made, and the Office is now seriously inconvenienced for the want of funds wherewith to defray its incidental expenses for the residue of this fiscal year.

The report and accompanying documents from this Office, for the present year, will show the immence amount of labor performed in the Claim Department alone. The clerks for a long time, were at their desks, with but little intermission from an early hour in the day until 10 & 11 Oclock at night; necessarily concerning a large amount of stationery, fuel, lights &c; and the entire appropriation for incidental expenses will be entirely consumed at the end of the present quarter (December 31) leaving the remaining six months entirely unprovided for.

I therefore respectfully urge what the sum of $1500 asked for in my letter to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, a copy of which is herewith transmitted, be increased to $ 2.000 and that it be inserted in the Deficiency Bill which will pass during the early part of the present Session of Congress, otherwise the operations of this Office will be in a measure, suspended until the commencement of the next fiscal year, which you well know will cause great inconvenience to claimants to land.

There is not a single law book in the Claim Department of the Office, although an appropriation of $ 500 °° was made for the purchase of such as were necessary, which has not been received up to this date, although it has been asked for; The amount is entirely too small to import such books as are of absolute necessity such as the Pandects Recopilation of the Indies Spanish & Mexican Decrees &c. which are costly works and difficult of procurement. I have therefore estimated for an additional sum.

I also respectfully request that, if possible the appropriations for this Office for the next fiscal year be made in strict accordance with the estimate transmitted from this Office.

I take the liberty of again calling your attention to the absolute necessity of further legislation in regard to the private land claims in this Territory. You will perceive that the sum of $295.000 has been appropriated by Congress for the adjudication of land titles in California, and as the representative of the interests of New Mexico, do you not consider it to be your duty, to cause such provisions to be made as will insure to your constituents the advantages and rights conceded to the inhabitants of California? The provisions of the present law for that purpose are entirely unsuited and inadequate; of no benefit to the claimant, or any advantage to the government.

I also enclose a bill amending the law granting donations to actual settlers in the Territory of which your own good sense and judgement will show the necessity

Very Respectfully
Your obdt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General.

Hon. Miguel A. Otero
House of Representatives
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
December 31. 1857

Sir

I respectfully request that a remittance be made to this office for the payment of the salaries of the Surveyor General and his clerks for the quarter ending March 31st 1858 in drafts on the Assistant Treasurer at New York of the of the same amount as those sent for the payment of the salaries for the quarter ending this day.

The account for salaries for the present quarter will be transmitted by the mail which will leave this place on the 15 proximo

I have also to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17 the ult, in which you state that you have made a requisition for the sum of $15 00.00 for Rent of the Surveyor Generals Office, but the remittance has not reached this office to this date.

Very Respectfully

Your obdt Servt
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A Hendricks
Commr. of the General Land Office
Washington D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
Dec: 24th 1857

Sir,

I have received the following Treasury drafts payable to my order by the Assistant Treasurer of the United States New York

No 5703	on Trea Int Warrant	No 5309	for $750.
No 5704	Same	Same	525.
No 5705	—	—	450.
No 5706	—	—	450.
No 5707	—	—	450.
No 5708	—	—	450
No 5709	—	—	175
		total	3250.

Your obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Sur Gen

Samuel Casey Esq:
Treasurer of the United States,

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
January 12th 1858

Sir:
Herewith I have the honor to transmit voucher and account for the salary of the Surveyor General of New Mexico and the clerks in his Office, for the quarter ending December 31, 1857.

Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Commr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
January 12th 1858.

Sir:
Herewith I have the honor to transmit account and vouchers for "Fuel Rent &c" for the Office of the Surveyor General of New Mexico for the Quarter ending December 31st 1857.

There is yet due on the last two quarters about the sum of $600.00 but owing to the absence of the person to whom it is owing, no vouchers have been obtained and consequently it has not been paid.

Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servant.
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor Generals office
Santa Fé N. M. January 8th 1858.

Sir.
I have received the following Treasury Draft, payable to my order by the A. T. U. S. New York

No. 5730 on Int. Treas. Warrant No. 5332 P.T. for $ 300.=
" 5731 " " " " " " 300.=
" 5732 " " " " " " 300.=
" 5733 " " " " " " 300.=
" 5734 " " " " " " 300.=

Samuel Casey Esq.
Treasurer of the United States.

Your obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
January 12th 1858.

Sir:

Your letter of Novr. 28th ult. informing this Office of the adjustment of my accounts for the 3d Quarter 1857, has been received and contents noted.

The calculation of the Salary a/c contained in voucher No. 7 is made in accordance with the instructions issued from your Office on the 19th May ult. Assuming the quarter at 90 days, and the pay per quarter being $4.50. or and Mr. Mink having served 15. days the calculation would be made, this.

90: 450:: 15: x.

The answer is $75.00 the amount charged. But even supposing the amount to be wrong, the error cannot be less than one day, for which the pay is exactly $5.00 I cannot therefore see how an error of $1.63 is obtained.

The accounts of Leonidas Smith and J. H. Mink vouchers 6 & 7. for the 4th Quarter 1857 are calculated in the same manner and in accordance with your instructions of May 19/57 above referred to. I therefore trust that the sum of $1.63 disallowed in my Salary a/c for the 3d Quarter 1857, will be placed to my credit and that the fractional quarters charged in vouchers 6 & 7. 4th Quarter 1857 will be passed as therein stated.

Enclosed you will please find a communication from Messrs. Beck & Johnson concerning the charge of $65.79. in voucher No. 5, Rent a/c 3d Quarter 1857.

As it was necessary to obtain the stationery &c required for the use of this Office before the appropriation of March 3d 1857 made for that purpose could be obtained here in September 1857, it became necessary to furnish a list of such articles as might be required, to some merchants of the place in order that they should be brought out in the merchant trains which arrived here in July last. As no funds were furnished them for the purchase of those articles, Messrs Beck and Johnson have charged the amount of 25 p/c on the original cost of the articles, for freight, commission, Insurance &c from Philadelphia to this place, which added to the original cost of the goods makes them much lower than they could possibly be purchased here if all the articles could be obtained. Trusting that this explanation will prove satisfactory, I respectfully request that the amount disallowed may be placed to my credit.

As the same charge will be found in my accounts for the 4th Quarter 1857, I request that the above explanation may be made applicable to this case also.

Very respectfully &c.
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Comr. of the Genl. Land office
Washington city D.C.

Santa Fé New Mexico
January 11th 1858

Sir:

Your favor of the 8th inst in relation to our accounts against the Surveyor Generals Office rendered you for the quarters ending 30th Sept & 31st Dec. 1857 is at hand. In reply we have to state that the articles composing those accounts were ordered by you for the use of the office & were purchased by us in Phil.a on the memorandum handed us for your account. The percentage added at the fort was our charge for trouble risk expense &c. for delivering the goods to your hire being less than the same articles were worth in the market.

Your &c.
Beck & Johnson

Genl. Wm Pelham
Surveyor General
Territory New Mexico

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
January 12th 1858.

Sir:

In transmitting claims which have been approved for their final confirmation by Congress, it was the intention of this office that the Pueblo grants should be numbered from number one up and that the citizen private land claims should be numbered as they were filed in this Office and entered on the Docket hence some confusion has arisen in the enumeration of the several claims transmitted. Upon reflection and after the receipt of your letter of November 19 1857, I have thought it advisable to change the system heretofore adopted by numbering the approved claims of citizens from No. 1. up and that the Pueblo grants be distinguished by alphabetical signs, commencing with the letter A. as there are but 21 Pueblos in all, there will be no danger of a repetition of the letters.

I herewith enclose a schedule of the Pueblo Grants and private land claims approved and transmitted lettered and numbered as above stated with the request that the alteration be made on the claims before their final confirmation by Congress.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant.
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Comr. of the Genl. Land office
Washington City
D. C.

Schedule of Pueblo Grants examined and approved by the Surveyor General of New Mexico, and transmitted for the final action of Congress in the premises, viz:

A Jemez
B Acoma
C San Juan
D Picuris
E San Felipe
F Pecos
G Cochiti
H Santo Domingo
I Taos
K Santa Clara
L Tesuque
M San Ildefonso
N Pojoaque
O Zia
P Sandia
Q Isleta

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
January 12. 1858

Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Schedule of Private Land Claims examined and approved by the Surveyor General of New Mexico, and transmitted for the final action of Congress in the premises.

1	Preston Beck jr. assignee vs.	San Miguel County
2	Town of Tomé	Valencia County
3	Manuel Martinez	Rio Arriba County
4	Charles Beaubien	Taos County
5	Town of Casa Colorada	Valencia County
6	Hugh Stephenson et al.	Doña Ana County
7	Town of Tecolote	San Miguel County
8	Ignaciano Vigil	do do do
9	John Scolly et al	Taos County
10	John Lamy	Santa Fé County

11	Town of Chilili	Bernalillo County
12	Antonio Sandoval	San Miguel County
13	Town of Belen	Valencia County
14	Serafin Ramirez	Bernalillo County
	Charles Beaubien	
15	Guadalupe Miranda	Taos County
16	José Leandro Perea	San Miguel County
17	Ceran St Vrain et al	Taos County
18	Alexander Valle	San Miguel County

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
January 12. 1858

Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
January 26th 1858

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the "Return of Property" required of me by the Secretary of the Treasury for the six months ending December 31st 1857.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Comr. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
January 27th 1858

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit account of John W. Garretson Esq. Deputy Surveyor for the survey of 87 miles 18 chs 40 lks of Standard Correction Lines and 678 miles 44 chs and 6 lks of Exterior Township and subdivision lines, together with Plats and copies

of the original field notes of the Survey thereof, and also the report and account of A. P. Wilbar Examiner of Surveys

Very Respectfully
Your Obd.t Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Comr. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe. New Mexico
March 13th 1858.

Sir

Herewith I have the honor to transmit account of R E Clements, accompanied with copy of Field notes and approved plats, together with Report and account of Stephenson Archer, Examiner of surveys for the survey of forty eight miles of Standard Parallel and two hundred and fifty two miles, three chains and nine links of Exterior Township Lines, amounting to Three thousand nine hundred and Eighty four 44/100 Dollars, under Contract No. 8

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant,
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Comm: of the General Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
March 13th 1858.

Sir

Herewith enclosed you will please find Contract No. 8 Entered into with Reuben E Clements Esq., deputy Surveyor for the Survey of three hundred Miles of Standard Parallel & exterior Township lines in the valley of the Pecos River, between the 2nd and 3rd Correction lines North which I trust will meet your

approved.

Very Respectfully
Your obt. Svt.
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General

Thos. A. Hendricks Esq.
Commr. of the Genl Land Office
Washington City.
D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico.
March 13th 1858.

Sir

In the execution of Contract No. 11. entered into with you this day, you will be governed by the laws of the United States and the instructions issued to Deputy Surveyors of which you have been furnished with a printed copy from this office. You are required to date each days work in your field Notes, either at the commencement or end of the days work and give a full description of the nature & quality of the soil you may pass over in the Execution of your work.

Herewith you will find a description list of the corners on the third Correction line north, upon which your Range lines close.

Upon the completion of every two hundred miles of your work more or less you will transmit the field notes thereof accompanied with a sketch map, by some safe opportunity in order that the notes may be official accounts made and transmitted to the Department as early as practicable.

Very Respectfully
Your obt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General

Reuben C. Clements Esq.
Dep. Surveyor
Santa Fe. N.M.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
March 24th 1858.

Sir:

I have received the following Treasury Draft, payable to my order by the A. F. U. S. New York.

No. 6258	on Int. Treasury Warrant No. 5866 P.T for	$750 —
" 6259.	do	525 —
" 6260.		450 —
" 6261.		450 —
" 6262.		450 —
" 6263.		450 —
" 6264.		175. —

Your obedient servant,
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Samuel Casey, Esq.,
Treasurer of the United States.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
March 26, 1858.

Sir:

Before your accounts for the last work you returned to this Office can be transmitted to the Department, it will be necessary for you to close the Range line between Ranges 2 & 3 East, on the 3d. Correction line North. If no corner can be found on the correction line upon which you are required to close it is your duty to follow the correction line East or West until a corner is found and then run the line over and establish the corner upon which you are to close as you have been verbally instructed from this Office.

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt. Servant.
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

R. P. Kelley Esq.
Deputy Surveyor
Albuquerque
N. Mo.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
March 30th 1858.

Sir:

In order to allow the same privileges to those desiring to purchase public land and locate Military Bounty Land warrants as are now enjoyed by settlers under the donation law, and as many persons desire to purchase and locate warrants upon the Public lands in this Territory I respectfully recommend that Townships No 13 N. Ranges No. 26, 27, 29, & 30 East. Township No 18 N. Range No 20 East. Frac Township No. 18 S. Range No 4 West, Fractional Township No. 19 S. Range No. 3 West. Fractional Township No. 19 N. Range No. 4 & 5 East, and Fractional Townships No. 20 N. Ranges No 3, 4 & 5 East the plats of which have been approved and transmitted to your Office, be offered for sale and made subject to entry as early as practicable.

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A Hendricks
Comr. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
March 29th 1858

Sir.

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the account of J. W. Garretson Esq. Deputy Surveyor together with copies of the Field Notes and approved plats for the Survey of 215 miles 34 chs. & 99 links of Exterior Township Boundaries subdivision and meander lines in the Valles and vicinity amounting to two thousand five hundred and Ten 60/100 Dollars for which Mr. Garretson requests that Treasury Notes, or in their absence drafts on the Asst. Treasurer of the U. S at New York, be transmitted to him to this place

In order to extend the public surveys into the Valles as provided in the contract of July 29th 1857, it was necessary for Mr. Garretson to meander the whole distance from the line between Townships No. 19 & 20 N. Range No 8 East as the country over which he passed to get into the Valles is so cut up with Cañons and gulches that it was impossible for him to get into the valles without meandering.

The above work has been examined and reported to be correct by A. L. Wilbar Esq. but the Report has been mislaid and as Mr. Wilbar is now absent from town it cannot be

transmitted at present. So soon as he returns the report and his account will be forwarded.

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Comm. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
April 9th 1858.

Sir.

Herewith I have the honor to enclose the Report of A. P. Wilbar, Examiner of Surveys upon the work executed by John W. Garretson Esq. Deputy Surveyor, in the Valley, which was omitted when the account plat &c of that work was transmitted. As no expenses were incurred by Mr Wilbar no account is rendered.

Very Respectfully
Your obt Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A Hendricks Esq
Comm. of the Genl Land Office
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor Genl. Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico.
April 12th 1858.

Sir.

Your communication of March 1st asking information in regard to certain grants in this Territory, has been received and contents noted. The grants made by the Government of Mexico to Messrs Beaubien & Lee, Beaubien and Miranda & Cornelio Vigil and Ceran St Vrain have been investigated and approved by this office and copies were transmitted to the General Land office at Washington, to be laid before Congress in October last. I have no doubt

that you can obtain copies from the General Land Office upon application and probably they will be published in the proceedings of Congress as has been customary heretofore.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Silas Bent Esq
Chicago Ill.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
April 12th 1858.

Sir.

I respectfully request that a remittance be made to me for the payment of the salaries of the Surveyor General and the Clerks in his Office for the quarter ending June 30th 1858, on draft on the Assistant Treasurer of the U. S. at New York for the same amounts as those transmitted for the payment of the salaries for the last quarter.

Should the leave of absence applied for by me in January last be granted, I respectfully request that the drafts be transmitted to me at Saint Louis Mo. to the care of D. Tatum & Co.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Commr. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City.
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
April 14th 1858.

Sir.

Herewith I have the honor to transmit my account with accompanying vouchers for the salary of the Surveyor General and the Clerks in his Office, for the Quarter ending March 31st 1858.

Very Respectfully, Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Commr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
April 14th 1858.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit my account and accompanying vouchers on account of "Rent of Office, Fuel & Incidental Expenses" of this Office for the Quarter ending March 31st 1858.

There is an amount due for public printing which will more than cover the balance now due the U. S. as per the account herewith accompanying, but as the proper person to sign the voucher is still absent, the account is not charged in the last quarter.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
April 27th 1858.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to accompany contract No 9. entered into on the 26th January last, with J. M. Garretson and J. A. Tiry Deputy Surveyors for the survey of twenty two entire Townships and twenty fractional Townships in the Valley of the Rio Grande in this Territory

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
April 27th 1858.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit Contract No. 11 entered into on the 13th day of March last, with Ro. E. Clements Esq. Deputy Surveyor, for the survey of Forty Eight miles of Standard Correction lines, six hundred and forty six miles of exterior Township boundaries between the second and third Correction lines North, and the subdivision of two Townships.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
April 27th 1858.

Sir:

Herewith you will please find enclosed contract No. 12 entered into on the 10th inst with R. P. Kelley Esq. Deputy Surveyor, for the survey of three hundred and fifty miles of Standard Correction and Exterior Township boundaries in the Valley of the Rio Grande, which I trust will meet with your approval.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
April 29th 1858.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit account of A. P. Milbar Deputy Surveyor, together with a copy of the Field Notes & approved plats of the survey thereof, accompanied with account and report of J. F. Battaille Deputy Surveyor Examiner of surveys, for the subdivision of the Townships mentioned in his contract of March 3d 1858, amounting to Two Thousand and fifty Eight 53/100 Dollars

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A Hendricks Esq.
Comr. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
April 29th 1858.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit account of R. P. Kelley Deputy Surveyor accompanied with a copy of the Field Notes and approved plats of the survey thereof together with the report and account of J. F. Battaille Deputy Surveyor & Examiner of surveys for the survey of Three hundred and seventeen miles twelve Chains and forty five links of Standard Correction Lines and Exterior Township Boundaries amounting to Three thousand nine hundred and twenty one 31/100 Dollars. This amount closes the contract entered into with Mr. Kelley on the 5th October last.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
April 29th 1858.

Sir: Herewith I have the honor to transmit account of John W. Garretson Esq. Deputy Surveyor accompanied with a copy of the Field Notes and diagram together with the account and report of Jas. A. Tiny Examiner of surveys for the survey of 645 miles 38 Chains and 60 links of Standard correction, and Exterior Township Boundary lines, in the valley of the Rio Grande amounting to Seven thousand, seven hundred and thirty four 44/100 Dollars which amount Mr Garretson requests to have transmitted to him at this place in drafts on the Assistant Treasurer of the U. S. at New York.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Comr. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
April 29th 1858.

Sir: Herewith you will please find, Contract No. 10, entered into on the 3d March last, with A. D. McBride Esq. Deputy Surveyor for the survey of six hundred miles of Guide meridian, Standard Parallel and Exterior Township lines in the valley of the Conejos and the subdivision of Townships Nos. 13 & 15 North Range 9 East and Fractional Townships No. 14 North Ranges Nos. 8 & 9 East. These townships have been settled upon by Claimants under the donation law for the last three or four years, and are in constant disputes about the boundaries of their respective Claims, which could only be avoided by having them subdivided.

The portion south of the creek in Township No. 14 N. Range No. 8 E. and the western half of Township No. 13 N. Range No. 9 E. are undisputed private property, the Town of Guisteo being situated in that portion of the latter Township not surveyed. That portion of Township No. 14 N. Range No. 9 East is covered with Hills and land entirely unsusceptible of cultivation and its survey is consequently unnecessary.

(Over)

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Comr. of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
April 30. 1858.

Sir.

Some time since application was made to this Office by Brigadier General John Garland Commander of this Military Department requesting that a certain amount of land be reserved for military purposes at Fort Thorn in this Territory, and that the lines of the reserve be surveyed. I accordingly directed Mr. Garretson to make the survey as requested and according to a sketch of the reserve furnished to this Office. The survey of the Reserve is included in Mr. Garretson account, transmitted by this mail and which I trust will meet with your approval.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Comr. of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
April 30 1858.

Sir

Herewith enclosed you will please find, copy of a letter of instructions furnished to J. F. Wallace Esq., who has been appointed a Deputy Surveyor by this Office to examine the work of such Deputy Surveyors, in the field to whom he may be assigned from time to time.

These instructions are based upon instructions transmitted from your Office; and I trust they will meet with your approval.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Comr. of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
April 4 1858.

Sir:

You have been duly appointed and commissioned by this Office, as a Deputy Surveyor for the purpose of examining the work of such Deputy Surveyors to which you may be instructed from time to time, by this Office, to examine.

The object of your examinations is to endeavour to ascertain to a certainty, (or as much so as possible) that the field work has been faithfully executed under the contract, particularly, as respects the efficacy of the marks at the corner boundaries, also as respects the permanent character of the mounds (where such are the monuments used in perpetuating corner boundaries) and also that the lines are so marked by blazes on the trees according to the surveying requirements as to be readily distinguished and traced.

In order to ascertain the general character of the work it is not intended that you shall minutely examine all its details. You are required to ascertain whether the lines, generally are readily traceable whether the letters and figures designed to mark the corners are plain, distinct and unmistakable and whether the mounds and entire work has been executed according to the manual of surveying instructions.

As a general rule where a single line such as a Standard parallell or Guide meridian is to be examined, and you travel the entire length of the line for that purpose you are expected to make your observations at every corner, but when the section or quarter section corners of a township survey are to be examined you are to travel across the township (when practicable) in a diagonal or zig-zag direction, and examine the corners on your route and if you find in so doing that the work stands the test a further examination of that township will be unnecessary. Should any doubt exist in your mind as to the efficacy and correctness of the work you will traverse the township in an opposite direction, and if you find the work inefficiently executed you will report the fact to this Office without delay.

In the examination of a contract embracing the subdivision of several township you are, of course not expected to examine each and every one of them as above provided, but you will select from those which have been surveyed a sufficient number to satisfy yourself that the work has been done correctly.

In your examinations chaining will be one of the tests of the work. For that purpose you will provide yourself with a chain tested by the Standard in this Office, and a solar compass and upon arriving at the field of your labors you will procure such assistants

as you may absolutely require, and test a line here and there in order to determine the General Character of the work in that respect.

Should the Deputy Surveyor whose work you are about to examine not be able to furnish such assistants as you may require you will procure them from other sources engaging them only for a very short period, in order to incur as little expense as possible which in no case must exceed the amount of percentage retained in the contract for the purpose of defraying the expense attending the examination including of course your per diem pay.

You will be allowed and paid by the United States at the rate of Five Dollars per diem for your services and your necessary and reasonable expenses. Your pay will commence from the time you leave for the performance of your duty and will terminate upon your return thereafrom.

You are required to make an account (in duplicate) of the number of days employed by you in the execution of your duty and the necessary expenses incurred by you in the performance thereof. This account is to be made in accordance with the form furnished you by this Office.

You are also required to make out and file in this Office a report of the result of your examination, which is to be transmitted to the General Land Office with the Deputy Surveyors account.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

J. J. Bartaille Esq
Deputy Surveyor
Santa Fe
N. Mo.

Surveyor Generals Office Santa Fe New Mexico
May 3d 1858.

Captain.

Herewith accompanying you will please find a copy of the original plat of the survey of the Military Reserve at Fort Thorn N. M. which has been reserved for Military purposes at the request of the Military Commander of this Department and the survey of which has been transmitted to the Commissioner of the General Land Office at Washington City D. C.

I deem it proper to inform you that prior to the application being made for the reserve a claim was filed in this Office by Whitney R. Fuller Esq for one hundred and sixty acres of land under the donation Law of this Territory.

Very

Respectfully
Your obdt Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Capt. L. C. Easton
U. S. A.
Santa Fé
N. M.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
May 14th 1858.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit a/c of R. E. Clements Deputy Surveyor, accompanied with copy of the Field Notes and approved Diagram of the survey together with a/c and Report of S. Archer Examiner of Surveys for the Survey of 209 miles 76 Chains & 13 links of Exterior Township Boundary lines, between the 2d & 3d Correction lines north, under his contract of March 13th 1858 amounting to Two Thousand Four Hundred & fifty six 44/100 Dollars which amount he request to have transmitted as per his letter, herewith enclosed

Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office.
Santa Fé. New Mexico.
May 25th. 1858.

Sir.

Herewith I have the honor to return the copy of the Field Notes of R. E. Clements with the necessary blanks and signatures filled up as required.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commr of the General Land office
Washington D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
May 25th 1858.

Sir.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of April 21st ult, together with seven dozen Graduated Pencils requested by Mr Whiting, for which you will please receive my sincere thanks

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Hon Thomas A. Hendricks
Commr of the General Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
May 28th 1858

Sir,

The Hon. M. A. Otero, has transmitted to this office, a letter by you to him in which it is stated, that it is believed that a portion of the $13,000 estimated for by you for surveying such of the Private Land Claims in this Territory as shall have been confirmed by Congress can be applied to the payment of expenses for which no provision has been made by former appropriations, and as this office is indebted for expenses incurred in the Land Claim Department, and disbursements having been made for that Department from the contingent fund, the present quarter is consequently left almost entirely unprovided for, and should Congress make an appropriation in accordance with your estimate, I respectfully request that $2000 thereof be transmitted without delay in Drafts on the Asst Treasurer of the U. S.

at New York in sum of $500.00 cash in order that the demands against the office may be cancelled as soon as possible.

The stationery &c. for the office for the ensuing year has been requested from the State and is expected to arrive shortly, and in order that the original cost thereof and the freight and expenses thereon may be paid promptly I respectfully request that the half of whatever amount may be appropriated by Congress for the contingent expenses of the office for the year ending June 30th 1859 be transmitted as soon as practicable in Drafts on the same place and for the same amounts as in the former case.

Very Respectfully
Your obt Servant
John Pelham
Surveyor General

Hon. T. A. Henderson, Esq.
Commr of the General Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
May 29th 1858

General:

Information has been conveyed to me through the Superintendent of Indian Affairs in this Territory that a party of hostile Indians are hovering around the camp of A. P. Wilbar Esq. Deputy Surveyor now surveying on the Conejos Valley, and threaten to stop his work.

Mr. Wilbar is surveying in the midst of the settlements in the Conejos Valley and his surveys embrace private lands in that locality. If his work is stopped on account of the Indians, great loss will result to Mr. Wilbar; the people who have settled upon the land will be seriously annoyed on account of not knowing where the lines, which will probably designate their claims will run, and the public surveys in the Territory will be materially retarded if the Indians are allowed to stop the above named Deputy Surveyor in his labors.

I therefore respectfully request that a sufficient escort be furnished to Mr. Wilbar at the earliest practicable period if it can be done without injury to the public

service.

Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

General John Garland
Commdg. Dept. New Mexico
Santa Fé
N. M.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
June 22. 1858.

Sir:

I have received the following Treasury Drafts, payable to my order by the A. F. U. S. New York

No. 7035, on Int. Treas Warrant No 6632. S.J. for $750.00
" 7036 " — " — " — " do " — 500 "
" 7037 " — " — " — " do " — 500 "
" 7038 " — " — " — " do " — 500 "
" 7039 " — " — " — " do " — 500 "
" 7040 " — " — " — " do " — 500 "

Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Sur. Genl

Samuel Casey Esq.,
Treasurer of the United States

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
June 30th 1858.

Sir.

Herewith you will please find my account for "Salary of the Surveyor General of New Mexico and the Clerks in his office," for the quarter ending June 30th 1858,

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commr Genl Land Office. Washington, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
June 30th 1858.

Sir,

Herewith enclosed you will please find my Return of Property for the six months terminating to-day, required by the Treasury Department.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendrickes Esq.
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
June 30th 1858

Sir:

In pursuance of the instructions issued for the government of this Office on the 26th August 1854. I proceeded on the 19th of June last to the valley of the Canadian & its vicinity for the purpose of acquiring such information as to enable me to determine the propriety of causing further surveys to be executed in that portion of country in preference to other localities and as authorized by the instructions above mentioned I have charged in my account for "Rent of Office" my actual and necessary Expenses which engaged in performing that service, which I trust will be passed to my credit on the books of the proper Department. So soon as I ascertain the amount of appropriation made for public surveys in this Territory I will recommend to the Department such surveys as will promote the public good and be beneficial to the government.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Comr. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
June 30th 1858

Sir: Herewith I have the honor to transmit my account for Rent of Office fuel &c" for the quarter ending June 30th 1858

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A Hendricks Esq
Commr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
June 30th 1858.

Sir: I respectfully request that one draft for $750, one for $525, and five for $450 each drawn on the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York be transmitted for the payment of the Salaries of the Surveyor General and the Clerks in his Office for the quarter ending September 30th 1858.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Commr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D C.

Surveyor Generals Office.
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 16. 1858

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to transmit account of R. P. Kelly, Deputy Surveyor, for the Survey of 26 miles of Correction lines and 176 miles 04 chains 17 links of Exterior Township boundary lines, accompanied with copies of the field notes and approved plats of the Survey thereof amounting to Two Thousand five hundred and Sixty six 81/100 Dollars.

The above report has been examined, and reported as correct, but as the Examiner is absent from the city his report and account are not transmitted. They will be sent when he returns.

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt Servant
Wm Pelham
Surv. Genl

Thomas A. Ewbanks Esq.
Comm. Genl Land Office
Washington
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Fort St Vrain Mexico
August 24th, 1858

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit account of A. D. Kelley, Deputy Surveyor for the Survey of 3 miles 60 chains of Standard Correction lines and 142 miles 56 chains and 82 links of Exterior Township Boundary lines, amounting to one thousand seven hundred and forty two 82/100 Dollars, accompanied with copy of the field notes and approved Diagram of the Survey. This account covers the contract entered into with Mr Kelley on the 10th of April last.

The Contract entered into with Mr Kelley, of which the above is the completion, is a portion of Contract No 4, entered into with J. M. Gantson Esq, D.S. on the 2nd day of December 1856 for the Survey of one thousand eight hundred miles of Exterior Township boundaries & Standard Correction lines in the valley of the Rio Grande, and relinquished by him, and the relinquishment accepted by this office, for the reason contained in his letter of Feb. 16th 1856, herewith enclosed.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Ewbanks Esq.
Comm. Genl Land Office
Washington
D.C.

Camp near Fort Fillmore N. M.
Feby 16: 1855.

William Pelham Esqr. Surveyor General

Sir:

It was my intention before arriving here, to go out East of the 1st range of mountains East of Rio Grande, and run the remainder of my contract of exterior (of some 450 miles) on a very pretty plain of good land, which lies East of said mountains. but on arriving here I hear that eleven Indians were killed a few days since by Mexicans from Mesilla, most of them in the town of Doña Ana, now I think it extremely dangerous, to go out on this plain, where there are now a great many of these indians who are certainly exasperated at the murder of their comrades & therefore I would respectfully ask to be relieved from that portion of my work. In running the Subdivision under the contract of Joseph A. Ivy and myself, we will be in danger from indians, but we will not have to divide our parties near so much in subdividing as in running exterior, on each miles would have to go sometimes 20 miles to water and would require a considerable force to protect them; the camp would also be in danger of attack.

Respectfully
John M. Jackson
S. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 29: 1855

Sir:

Your circular letter of June 4th ultimo informing this office, that from and after July 1st, the Clerks and Draughtsmen in the Surveyor General's Offices must be paid at as much per annum direct from the Treasury, has been received, and I beg leave to reply that I fully concur with the Department in the

new arrangement, as it relieves me from the responsibility of disbursing that account of pay as well as rendering quarterly accounts therefor.

The Clerks in the office, however complain that the change will operate oppressively upon them on account of being compelled to wait for their pay, so long after the expiration of the quarter.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
August 1st 1858

Sir:

Herewith enclosed you will please find account and report of S. F. Battaile Esq. Examiner of Surveys upon the Surveys executed by R. E. Kelly Esq. Deputy Surveyor under his contract, dated April 10: 1858, the account for the remaining portion of which was sent to your office by the mail of the 26th ult.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commr of the Genl Land Office
Washington.
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, Nuevo Mexico,
August 9, 1858.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit Contract No. 13 entered into this day with R. S. Kelley, Esq., deputy surveyor, for the Subdivision of Townships No. 3 South, Range No. 3 East, Nos. 4 & 5 South Ranges Nos. 3, 4 & 5 East, No. 6 South, Range Nos. 3 & 4 East, No. 7 South Range No. 2 East, No. 8 South Range No. 4 East, and No. 7 South Ranges Nos. 3 & 4 East, of the Principal Meridian, amounting in all to thirteen Townships, which the public interest requires to be surveyed.

Very respectfully
Your obt Servant,
Wm Pelham,
Surveyor General.

Thos. A. Hendricks, Esq.,
Comm'r Genl Landoffice,
Washington City,
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
August 9th 1858.

Sir:—

Your communication of July 1st ultimo enclosing my Commission as Surveyor General of New Mexico, from and after July 31st 1858, and until the end of the next session of the Senate of the United States, together with blank Bond, &c., came to hand by mail on yesterday; and, in accordance with your instructions, I have the honor to transmit herewith my Bond duly executed, together with the affidavits of my Sureties— all of which I trust will prove satisfactory.

Very respectfully,
Your obt Servant,
Wm Pelham,
Surveyor General of Nuevo Mexico.

Thomas A. Hendricks, Esq.,
Commissioner of the General Landoffice,
Washington City,
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office.
Santa Fé, New Mexico
August 14. 1858

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit account of John W. Garretson and Joseph A Ivy Deputy Surveyors, for the Survey of Thirty eight Townships in the valley of the Rio Grande, amounting to Twenty three thousand five hundred and fifteen 22/100 Dollars accompanied with copies of the Field notes and approved plats of the Survey, thereof, together with account and report J. F. Battaile Examiner of Surveys.

It is the intention of Mr Garretson to be in Washington by the time his accounts are adjusted, you will therefore please retain his portion, of the account until his arrival there, when he will give such instructions as may be necessary in regard to its disposal

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
Jno Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esqr.
Commr of the Genl Land office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
August 14th 1858

Sir:

In reply to your letter of July 3rd 1858 in which you inform this Office of the suspension of Voucher No. 6 of Rent &c for the quarter ending March 31st, on account of its extravagance I have the honor to state that there are at present in this City the Offices of the Governor Secretary of the Territory Superintendent of Indian Affairs, District Attorney U. S Marshall, U.S. Mail Agent, Post Office, the Office of the Military Commander of the Department, the adjutants, Quarter Masters, Commissary's and Pay Masters Offices and in short time the Offices of the Register of the Land Office and Receiver of Public moneys for the District of New Mexico will also be located in this City. In a community different from this persons can always select such Offices where

they have business, without its being necessary to designate them by any outward device or sign, but here, were the great majority of the people are natives of the Country speaking a different language and ignorant of the particular locality or the precise nature of the particular business of each Department of the government, and as hundreds of persons have constant business before the Office either to file private land claims or applications for donations it is absolutely necessary to have some distinguishing mark to identify one Office from another in order to prevent delay in the transaction of business as well as to avoid the annoyance and trouble which constant interruption would necessarily be causing other Offices by inquiries being made to them concerning the locality of each Office, I therefore caused the sign charged in Voucher No. 6 to be constructed deeming it to be the best mode of remedying the evil.

The Department must take into consideration also the great difference in the price of material & labor between this Country and other portions of the States a sign similar to the one now charged for cost in the State of Arkansas in the year 1843 or 4 only thirteen Dollars. At that time chain carriers could be readily obtained at fifteen Dollars per month while here they are difficult to be obtained at prices ranging between Forty & one hundred Dollars per month. Blue Smalts which in St Louis costs only 18 cents per pound cannot be had here for les that 1.25 cts per pound. Gold leaf can be purchased in St Louis for three or four Dollars per pound which cannot be bought here for less than Fourteen Dollars. The amount paid for the sign here is no higher than that paid by the Surveyor General of Arkansas in 1843 or 1844 in proportion to the prices paid for other labor or commodities

I beg leave to differ with the Department when it states that such an account has never been paid in any of the Surveying Districts as an account similar to the one now in question was made by the Surveyor General of Arkansas and allowed by the government as will be seen by reference to his returns — which I suppose are on file in your Office.

I trust the above explanations will be deemed sufficient to pass the amount to my credit, should they not be I am willing to pay for the sign from my private funds as I am fully convinced that the expenditure is just and absolutely necessary.

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commr. of the Genl. Land Office.
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
August 16th 1858.

Sir:

In compliance with your instructions contained in your letter to this Office of the 21st June last requiring a special report as to the condition of the charge of $200 for a mule charged in Voucher No 3 of Rent &c for the quarter ending September 30th 1855. I have the honor to state that on my way to Texas in the winter of 1855 as there was no examiner of Surveys in the Territory to examine the work of Mr Gardenson, while establishing the initial monument and running the meridian and Base lines in the Territory, I took the mule with me in order to examine the initial monument, as well as to inspect the lines run, the mule was taken by me to Texas with the intention of bringing it back on my return but while in Austin I received information that the account was disallowed, and I caused it to be sold at public sale, having advertized the same in a public news paper. The mule and aquipments were sold for the sum of Seventy five Dollars as is shown by the certificate of Fermin & Carr auctioneers at Austin Texas, herewith enclosed.

The amount due me for expenditures incurred in summoning witnesses &c in the case of Preston Beck Jr &c is as follows viz.

Voucher No 3 Rent &c for the quarter ending September 30th 1855 being amount paid H. W. Reed for one mule	$200. 00
Voucher No 4 to 14 inclusive being expenses in summoning witnesses and per diem pay & mileage of the same.	92. 45
Voucher No 4 Rent &c for quarter ending Dec. 31. 1855 being amount paid Jose A. Padilla, Corr & Shar	14. 37
In Voucher No 2 Rent &c for quarter ending Dec. 31st 1855 paid Beck Johnson & Co for saddle Blanket martingale &c.	27. 00
Amounting to.	$333. 82
From which deduct amount proceed of sale of mule as per certificate herewith enclosed	75. 00
Leaving balance due me of	258. 82

For which please send draft on the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt Servant
Wm Pitkin
Surveyor General.

Thomas A Hendricks Esq.
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Austin Texas
February 25th 1856.

We certify that on this day in accordance with the advertisement of the Surveyor General of New Mexico, we did offer at public sale to the highest bidder in cash, one mule saddle, Bridle, martingale & saddle blanket and that they were sold for seventy five dollars in the public street of Austin Texas

Firmin & Carr
Auctioneers

I will sell to the highest bidder for cash at 12 o'clock, on the 25th of February in front of the Metropolitan House in the City of Austin, a mule saddle, bridle, martingales and saddle blanket, property of the U. S. Government.
N.26 T.T-16-2w-pd.

Wm Pitman
Surveyor General of New Mexico

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
August 16th 1858

Sir:

On the 27th February 1855, application was made from this Office for the purchase of certain Mexican & Spanish law books, a list of which was transmitted at the time. In reply your predecessor informed this Office that an appropriation of $3000 had been made by Congress to cover the contingent expenses of the Office and that if any books were required that they should be purchased by me out of that fund. Subsequently an appropriation of $500 was made by Congress for the purpose of purchasing such books as may be required for the Office. In your letter of June 21st last you state that this appropriation remains unexpended. The books are very much needed for reference in the adjudication of Private land Claims before this Office and although the amount is not sufficient to purchase all that are necessary I respectfully request that amount of $500 be transmitted to me as soon as practicable in order that such as can be obtained for that amount may be purchased.

Very Respectfully
Your obt Servant
Wm Pitman
Surveyor General.

Thomas J. Hendricks Esq.
Comm. of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
August 19, 1858.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the synopsis of my annual report, accompanied with "estimates of appropriations" and diagram of the surveys executed up to this time.

Very respectfully,
Your obt Servant,
Wm Pelham,
Surveyor General

Tho A. Hendricks, Esq.
Commissioner Genl Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Synopsis

Of the Report of the Surveyor General of New Mexico for the year 1858

Since the first of October last the following contracts for public surveys have been made, viz:-

No 6 R. E. Clements,
No 7.- R. P. Kelley,
No 8.- R. E. Clements,
No 9.- J.W. Garretson & Jos. A. Tivy,
No 10.- A. P. Wilbur,
No 11.- R. E. Clements,
No 12.- R. P. Kelley,
No 13.- R. P. Kelley.

Of the above contracts Nos 7, 8, 9, 11 & 12 have been completed and the fieldnotes of the surveys filed in this Office, and copies thereof have been made and approved plats executed and transmitted to the General Land office. Contracts Nos. 6 & 10 have been completed and the fieldnotes returned to this Office, where they are now undergoing examination. Contract No 13 is now being executed, and will probably be completed by the end of October next. This contract will be paid out of the appropriation of June 12, 1858, as the other contracts will consume all the former appropriations.

Since the date of my last report 178 miles, 21 chains and 40 links of Standard Parallel, 2822 miles 63 chains and 63 links of Exterior Township boundaries and 2321 miles 41 chains and 76 links of Sub-

division Lines have been run and reported to the General Land Office.

There are now 732 miles of work more or less in the Office undergoing examination — which will be transmitted as soon as practicable.

I propose to employ a portion of the amount estimated for public Surveys for the year ending June 30, 1860, in continuing the Surveys between the Second and Fourth Correction Lines North on the North and South of the Canadian Fork of the Arkansas or Red River. I am satisfied from personal observation that the lands in that locality are valuable for agricultural purposes, and, if offered for sale, will be rapidly disposed of. The remainder I propose to expend West of the Rio Grande and the Principal Meridian between the Base and Third Correction Lines North, where, I have been informed by persons well acquainted with the country, there are lands admirably adapted to cultivation.

I respectfully recommend that the organic act establishing this Office be so amended that the entire amount estimated for the Salaries of the Clerks in the Office be directly appropriated by Congress instead of a portion coming out of the fund of $44,000 distributed between the different Offices, as is now the case.

Up to this time no allowance has been made for clerical services in the Private Land Claim department of this Office; and the entire force of the Office has in many instances been employed exclusively in that branch to the neglect and serious embarrasement of the other. Now that the Surveying department will require the services of all the Clerks at present employed, I have estimated for two additional Clerks for the Claim department, where their services are very much needed in order to give full compliance to the instructions issued to this Office on the 21st August 1854.

I also suggest that Congress pass a law requiring holders of claims to lands within this Territory under the former Governments to present them for adjudication within a limited period: otherwise the Government will never ascertain which are public lands and which is private property.

I herewith transmit Estimates of Appropriations for this Office for the year ending June 30 1860, and also a Diagram of the Surveys executed in this Territory up to this date.

Wm Pelham,
Surveyor General of New Mexico.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
August 18, 1858.

Estimate

Of Appropriations for the Office of the Surveyor General of New Mexico for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1860.

For the Salary of Wm Pelham, Surveyor General		$ 3,000 00
" " " " L. W. Whiting, chief Clerk	$2,100.00	
" " " " J. H. Watts, Calculator of Areas, &c	1,800.00	
" " " " J. C. Tapia, Draftsman	1,800.00	
" " " " A. J. Miller, Transcribers	1,800.00	
" " " " J. H. Mink, of	1,800.00	
" " " " Leonidas Smith, Fieldnotes	1,800.00	11,100 00
" " " " a Translator		2,000 00
" " " " two Clerks to be employed in the Claim department to record Private Land Claims and Pueblo Grants, required in letter of instructions of August 21, 1854, @ $1800 each		3,600 00
For Salary of Jesus Leyba, messenger & watchman		720 00
For fuel, office rent, Stationery, &c		3,000 00
For Surveying such private Land Claims and Pueblo Grants as may be confirmed, including expenses incurred in their investigation, in addition to the amount already appropriated		30,000 00
For continuing the Base, Meridian, Standard Parallels, Township and Section Lines		20,000 00

Wm Pelham
Surveyor General of New Mexico.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
August 18, 1858.

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe N. M. Aug. 21. 1858.

Sir. I am informed in your letter of July 12th, ult. requiring accounts for expenses incurred in the adjudication of Land Claims &c. before this office to be transmitted to your office herewith transmit the accounts of James L. Collins & J. M. Scott. the first for $554.38 & the second for $280.00 accompanied by copies of the advertisements for printing done for these branches of the office, and which I consider are a proper charge against the appropriation of $15,000

approved June 12th 1858 with the requests that drafts may be transmitted as requested in the accounts.

Very Respectfully
Your obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esqr
Commr of the Genl. Land office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
Aug. 21. 1858

Sir Herewith enclosed you will please find a copy of a letter from the commissioner of the General Land office striking out from your account the charge for surveying the Fort Thorn, military reserve for the reasons therein stated.

A copy of the same letter and the plat has been handed to General Garland at his request and he has promised to recommend its payment by the War Department. This office has also requested the commissioner of the General Land office to recommend its payment by the Department of the Interior to the Secretary of War.

Very respectfully &c
Wm Pelham, Sur. Genl

John M. Garretson Esqr
Fayetteville Ark.

Surveyor Genl's Office
Santa Fe, New Mex.
Aug. 21st 1858.

Sir. Herewith I have the honor to transmit account of R E Clements Dep. Surveyor. accompanied with copies of the Field Notes and Diagram for the Survey of 263 miles 05 Chs, & 01 lk of Standard Parallel and exterior

Boundary lines amounting to three thousand four hundred and ninety nine 3499 miles

The monthly has been favorably reported on by the Examiner, who was compelled to leave the City on account of indisposition, before making out his report in writing that together with his account will be transmitted with the remaining portion of the work which is now in the office undergoing examination

I Very Respectfully
Your obt Servt
John Pelham S. G.

Thomas A Hendricks Esq
Comr of the Genl L. Office

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico,
Aug 21. 1856.

Sir Your letter of the 12 ult following the account of J M Garretson for the survey of the Military Reserve at Fort Fillmore has lately received

I admit that Mr Garretson was instructed to execute the survey without that mature reflection on the part of this office, with which matters of that nature are generally treated but, as Mr Garretson was in the vicinity of the Fort, at the time the request was made and as Genl Carleton's reasons for asking the survey appeared at the moment to be just and reasonable, I considered that a compliance with his request would be furthering the interests of the government, by giving the Commander of the Post the means of keeping off mischievous characters.

Letters Recd Surveyor Genl's Office N.M. Vol. 162

After the instructions were issued and the work nearly completed I entertained some doubts as to the settlement of the accounts and hereafter I shall be careful not to cause such work to be done, without previously obtaining the sanction of the Department

The difference in the amount of the meanders between the account and plat, and the field notes arises from the fact that a portion of the meanders are charged and were paid for in the exterior boundary work which has been previously transmitted and consequently it was thought unproper to charge them again

Mr Garretson executed the work in good faith and it is but just that he should be paid and if the Department coincides with the views of this office in that respect, it will offer a favor upon Mr Garretson by recommending its payment to the Secretary of War.

Very Respectfully &c

Jno Pilkam
Surv. Genl.

Thomas J Hendricks Esq
Comr. of Genl L. Office
Washington D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
August 24th 1858.

Sir:

In the investigation of land cases in this Office, it sometimes occurs that a grant is made to lands which have already been granted at a former period. As no authorities can be had in this Territory I am compelled to seek them elsewhere, and the object of this is to request of you the favor to obtain for me the decisions of the governments of Spain and Mexico in regard to such cases and those also of the Supreme Court of Texas. If they can be obtained in the State please purchase them and cause them to be brought up by mail from San Antonio. If you will inform me, by mail or otherwise, at your earliest opportunity what the amount of the bill will be the amount will be cheerfully transmitted together with your commission.

Very Respectfully
Your obdt. Servt.
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Genl Thomas Green
Clerk Supreme Court
Austin
Texas.

Surveyor Generals office
Santa Fe New Mexico
August. 28th 1858

Sir. Herewith I have the honour to transmit account of A Pettibone Depy. Sur accompanied with copies of the field notes and approved diagram for the survey of 438 miles 08 chains and 19 links of standard correction lines and Exterior Township boundaries amounting to the sum of $6,358 41/100

The above amount completes the contract entered into with Mr. Pettibone on the 5th of March last.

The work has been favorably reported on verbally by the Examiner, who is now absent from the City. On his return his written report and account will be transmitted.

Very respectfully &c &c
Wm Pelham
Sur. Genl

Wm A Hendricks Esqr
Comr. of the G. L. Office

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
September 7. 1858.

Sir:

Herewith you will find a contract for the survey of 625 miles of Exterior Township Boundaries and subdivision lines which you will execute according to the Laws of the United States and the instructions to Deputy Surveyors.

You are expected to subdivide such lands as will sell readily when brought into market and will be careful to avoid any large grant there may be in the vicinity of your operations.

Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

A. P. Wilbar Esq.
Deputy Surveyor
Present.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
September 7th 1858

Sir.

Herewith I have the honor to enclose contract No. 15, entered into with A. P. Wilbar Esq. Deputy Surveyor for the survey of 625 miles of Exterior Township Boundaries and Subdivision lines, between the 3d & 5th Correction Lines South, and west of the Rio Grande in the vicinity of Fort Thorn and the Mesilla Valley which I trust will meet with your approval.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
September 2, 1858.

Sir.—

Herewith I have the honor to transmit contract No. 4 entered into with R. E. Clements, Esq., deputy surveyor, for the extension of thirty miles of the Fifth Correction Line South in an easterly direction and for surveying five hundred and ninety miles of Exterior Township Boundaries and Subdivision Lines between the Fourth and Fifth Correction Lines South and East of the Principal Meridian, which I trust will meet with your approval.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
Wm. Pelham,
Surveyor General.

Thos. A. Hendricks, Esq.,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
September 2, 1858.

Sir.—

You are hereby authorized to extend the Fourth Correction Line South in an eastwardly direction as far as may be required, should you find it necessary to do so in order to close your work upon it.

Very respectfully,
Your obt. servant,
Wm. Pelham,
Surveyor General.

R. E. Clements, Esq.,
Deputy Surveyor,
Present.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
September 4th 1858.

Sir:

Herewith enclosed you will please find account and reports of J. F. Battaille and S. Archer Esqs examiners of surveys on the work executed by A. P. Wilbur and R. E. Clements under their contracts No. 10. & 11.

Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Comr. of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
September 15th 1858.

Sir.

Herewith I have the honor to transmit my report of the operations of the Office from the 1st October last up to this date, accompanied with estimate of appropriations and diagram of surveys executed, all in triplicate as required by your letter of instructions of the 26 May last.

Very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
October 3d 1858

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit account of R. E. Clements Deputy Surveyor accompanied with copies of the field notes and approved plats of the survey together with the report and account of S. Archer examiner of surveys for the survey of 103 miles 30 chains and 71 links of Exterior Township Boundaries and subdivision and meander lines between the 4th and fifth correction Lines North and West of the Rio Grande between the mountain and the river amounting to $1240.59

This work was executed under contract No 6 entered into with R. E. Clements Esq. on the 3d October 1857 for the survey of 300 miles in the above mentioned locality. As the balance of the land in that vicinity has been reported unfit for cultivation and in places inaccessable Mr. Clements has been relinquished from the performance of the balance of this contract which I trust will meet your approval.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
William Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commissioner of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
October 3d 1858

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit account of R. E. Clements Deputy Surveyor accompanied with copies of the field notes and approved plats of the survey, together with account and report of S. Archer Esq. examiner of surveys for surveying 397 miles 39 chains and 91 links of Exterior Township boundaries and subdivision and meander lines East of the Principal Meridian and between the 2d & 3d Correction lines North amounting to 4,440.13

This amount completes contract No 11 entered into with R. E. Clements Esq. on the 13th March last.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
William Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Comr. of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
September 15th 1858.

Sir:

In compliance with your instructions I have the honor to submit the following Report of the operations of this Office since the 1st of October last.

Eight contracts have been entered into with Deputy Surveyors during the year as follows, viz:

No. 6. R. E. Clements
" 7. R. P. Kelley
" 8. R. E. Clements
" 9. J. W. Samelson & Jos A. Tivy
" 10. A. P. Wilbar
" 11. R. E. Clements
" 12. R. P. Kelley
" 13. R. P. Kelley

The above contracts, except No. 13 have all been completed the latter is now being executed and will in all probability be finished by the end of October next.

Col Clements found it impossible to complete his contract No. 6 within the time limited, on account of the snow, which in places was so deep as to prevent him from continuing his lines. I gave him permission to complete it during the summer season, which he has done and the field notes have been returned to the Office where they are now being examined.

Since the date of my last report 318 miles 25 chains and 73 links of standard Parallel and 5.626 miles 37 chains and 98 links of exterior Township boundaries and subdivision lines have been run, the field notes returned to the Office, examined, approved, copied and transmitted to the General Land Office, together with plats and diagrams of the surveys.

There are now about 450 miles of Exterior Township boundaries and subdivision lines under examination and which will be transmitted during the coming month.

All the appropriations made previous to this year for surveying the public lands in New Mexico have been consumed. That made on the 12th June last is now under contract and will be entirely expended by the 1st of January next.

I take great pleasure in bearing testimony to the energy, perseverance and skill manifested by my assistants in the field, in the prosecution of their labor. The contracts have been completed and the field notes returned to the Office long before the time required, they have overcome difficulties and surmounted obstacles, to an almost incredible extent, and I think I can safely say that it is difficult to find more competent faithful and able Deputies than those by whom I am now assisted.

By a glance at the Map it will be seen that the Territory of New Mexico differs, from any other portion of the Union, where the public domain is in the hands of the government, in other places the settler can go upon the land before it is surveyed, and by that means acquire a pre-emption claim which entitles him to the preference when the lands are sold. The policy of the government in reference to its public domain must necessarily be changed in this Territory, where the settlements are mostly confined to the Valley of the Rio Grande and those of its tributaries beyond which no settler can go alone on account of the hords of Indians, with which the surrounding country is infested. The lands in the immediate vicinity of the settlements are nearly all reduced to private property. Those settlers who desire to occupy the public domain must remove to a distance from the settlements and go in sufficient numbers to protect themselves from the attacks of the Indians and should they settle upon lands that are not surveyed endlefs disputes and quarrels will arise concerning their respective boundaries all of which can be easily avoided if the lands are surveyed before the settler is invited to occupy them.

In order more fully to ascertain those portions of the Territory where surveying operations should extend during the coming year under instructions issued to this Office by the Commissioner of the General Land Office on the 21st of August 1854 in the month of June last I made a reconnaissance of the country in the vicinity of the Canadian Fork of the Arkansas or Red River going down on the south side and returning on the north. The valley of this river is very wide and continues to be so for a long distance indeed, for beyond the limits of the Territory; the soil is extremily rich and the climate salubrious; it is well watered, and produces excellent pasture. This country together with that watered by Utah Creek, a tributary of the Canadian is admirably adapted to agricultural and pastoral pursuits, and in my judgement there is no portion of the Territory that would be more speedily settled than this were the lands in a condition to be obtained by the settler without delay. I propose to expend the larger portion of the amount estimated for, in preparing this land for market.

That region of country between the Base and Third Correction Lines North, lying West of the Principal Meridian has been ascertained to be, and has been reported to me, by reliable persons who have travelled over it, as well watered and timbered, and admirably adapted to cultivation. The mail route from Alburquerque to Woodville Cal. will pass over this region which will have the effect of opening the country, and it is important and highly advantagious to the government, that these lands should also be surveyed and brought into market at an early day. I therefore propose to expend the balance of the amount estimated for in surveying this section of country.

The mineral and agricultural resources of the Country are being developed to a considerable extent. Some of the richest mines in the Country are now worked with machinery. Large stock farms are about being commenced wherever the Indians are not troublesome. The establishment of a connected mail route from the southwestern borders of Missouri, through the center of our Territory over its mildest and most healthy climate, and its rich, fertile soil will have a greater tendency to develope its yet dormant resources. It has been ascertained that the shortest and most practicable and the most central overland route to California lies through our Territory on the line which will be travelled by the mail from Neosho Mo. to Albuquerque and from thence to Woodville or Stockton Cal. and the emigrant attracted by our productive soil, as well as our temperate and healthy climate and abundant pastures and water, will be tempted to give up his long and wearisome journey to the Pacific and take up his abode in our midst. In order that he may be enabled to do so conveniently the opportunity should be furnished him to select his land and secure his patent therefor with as little delay as possible; this can be done by causing the land to be surveyed and brought into market at an early date and unless the Department shall make other suggestions in regard to whatever appropriation may be made it will be expended on the region above referred to, so soon as it can be made available.

Col. Clements was engaged in running Exterior Township boundaries on the Canadian during my reconnaissance there. As the country was found to be extremely fertile and admirably adapted to cultivation, I instructed him to desist from running any more exterior lines and make up the remainder of his contract in subdivisions. This will account for the subdivision of five entire townships instead of two as called for in his contract.

The Department as aware of the great amount of business entailed upon the Office by that provision of the law requiring me to examine and report upon the private Land Claims in the Territory. Up to this time no further allowance has been made for clerical service for this Office than is allowed to other Offices where there are none other than surveying duties to perform. In many instances the entire force of the Office without exception has been employed in the private Land Claim Department, for months at a time, while the Office work of the Department of surveys was neglected to the embarrassment and delay of the Deputy who would be kept out of his just dues until time could be found to take up his work. As Congress, up to this time has not deemed proper to separate the two branches of the Office, and as the surveying Department will require the undivided attention of the force now employed, I respectfully recommend, that provision be made for at least two more Clerks, in order that the instructions of the 21st August 1854 requiring that a Journal and Docket be kept and subsequent ones requiring documents to be transmitted with the annual report, in triplicate, be carried out in such a manner as not to delay the other business of the Office.

I also recommend that the entire amount required for clerical services in the Office be specifically appropriated by Congress without leaving any portion subject to the appropriation of $41.000 generally distributed between the different offices according to the exigencies of the service.

The appropriation of $15.000 made at the last Session of Congress for "Surveying such of the private land claims and Pueblo grants as shall finally be confirmed by Congress," is entirely insufficient for the survey of those which have already been sent up from this Office. The grants in many instances are large, some of them are located in dangerous portions of the country, requiring a sufficient force for protection against Indians, and in some cases the presence of the Surveyor General will be required on the ground, to determine conflicting boundaries between grants. I have estimated for $30000 more, which will be barely sufficient to accomplish the purpose, by using the greatest economy.

Copies of deeds and other documents relating to land are often called for, to be used as evidence before the Courts of the Country; these are verified by a certificate only, and as a further verification is desirable I respectfully recommend that an official seal be authorized by law, with which all documents emanating from the Office shall be attested.

Deputy Surveyors are often at a great distance from the settlements where the services of a Justice of the Peace or other Officers authorized to administer oaths cannot be obtained and frequently they are prevented from sending in the detached portions of their work on account of their inability to attach the necessary oaths of their assistants. In order to avoid this obstacle I suggest that Deputy Surveyors be authorized by law to administer oaths whenever it may be found necessary.

I have found it necessary to discontinue receiving applications for donations, upon lands that have not been surveyed, for the reason that troubles and disputes have arisen between parties and the Office has been continually annoyed on account of the difficulties arising in the establishment of their boundaries where they have not been able to confine themselves to legal subdivisions, consequently none are reported.

It is desirable that Congress should pass a law requiring all holders of valid claims to lands within the Territory under the former governments, to present their claims for adjudication within a limited period. As the law now stands, persons are allowed to bring in their claims whenever they deem proper and unless some method is adopted to cause them to be filed at an early day, it will be very difficult, and in some instances impossible to ascertain which are public lands and which is private property. The Office has been in operation now for four years, and notice has been constantly given to inhabitants from the period of its establishment up to the present time, inviting them to present their claims at as early a day as practicable notwithstanding all this but a small proportion of the claims have been filed.

The entire work in the field has been executed with Burts improved Solar Compass, which has been found to accomplish every purpose claimed for it, and is far superior to any other instrument in use at the present day for running lines in the country where the local attraction varies so much in so short a distance.

The work of the Office has been brought up with that in the field, for which I am in a great measure indebted to the application and efficiency of the gentlemen Clerks in my employ who I am happy to say are in every way qualified for the laborious and constant operations required of them and which they have performed with credit to themselves and to the entire satisfaction of the Principal.

Herewith I have the honor to transmit estimate of appropriations and diagram of the surveys executed during the present year.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
October 14th 1858

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit my account current accompanied with the proper vouchers for Fuel, Rent of Office &c. for the quarter ending September 30th 1858

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A Hendricks Esq.
Comr. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
October 16th 1858

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit account of R. P. Kelley D. S. accompanied with copies of the field Notes and approved plats of the Surveys for Surveying 299 miles 25 Chains and 35 links of subdivision lines amounting to the sum of $3000. 4 hundred and 48 dollars 13/100.

The work has been reported favorably upon by the examiner, but as he is now absent from the City his account and report will be transmitted upon his return.

Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A Hendricks Esq.
Comr. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
September 30th 1858.

Sir:

Herewith enclosed you will please find account of Messrs. Beck & Johnson for $136. 00 for carpeting purchased for the rooms occupied as a Court in the adjudication of Private Land Claims for which you will please cause a draft to be sent as therein requested.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A Hendricks Esq.
Comr of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
October 1st 1858

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the accounts of the Clerks in my Office for the quarter ending Sept. 30th 1858 with their request thereto attached of the manner in which they desire their respective amounts disposed of
(7 enclosures)

Very Respectfully your obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Comr of the Genl. Land Office Washington D C

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
October 3rd 1858.

Sir:

I respectfully request that a draft on the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York may be sent to me at this place for the amount of my salary for the quarter ending Dec. 31. 1858

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commr. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
October 9th 1858.

Sir:

I have to call your attention to my letter of September 21st ult., in relation to the change of Surveyor General's salary, when it is proper that amount should be drawn for the $3000.52 as the reimbursement to the Government was anticipated.

The quarter for the accounting Sept. 30th ult. I have to state that the advertisement "Proposals for San Marcos" has been sent to the Office upon the subject by the Commissioner of the General Land Office, and instructions for its publication in Santa Fe & Santa Ana. The advertisement should appear in future numbers of the Gazette, and it is deemed more advantageous to the Government to confine its publication to the valid preferences so as not to offer the speculators, who have been in possession of the Spanish archives, and who have at different periods and at the private instance of Surveyor General, one advertisement after another, at different times, thus requiring to repeat the same statement in the public prints.

I have the pleasure to inform you that the Surveyor, Mr. Clark, is now at Santa Fe, and will be in a short time. The Santa Fe Gazette is the only paper in the Territory, and the only one that the Surveyor can

patient. In the meantime I have in my office payment of a balance claimed due, the accounts being now closed, transmitted to your office and to a new account subjoining referred. But as the Commissioner of the G.L.O. now absent and it is impossible to know when he shall return I can give no further information on the subject.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
J. Plum
Surveyor Genl

Thomas A. Lenhardt.
Commissioner, Land Office
Washington D.C.

P.S. Payment has not been presented here on the receipt of the sum of $281.42 due me on the within or of the acct. transmitted for measurement of your in case in such manner, mineral, as you will please retain the amount on the ground further advised in reference to the matter.

J. Plum
Surveyor Genl.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
November 4th 1868.

Sir:

On the 16th of July last past I transmitted a/c of R. S. Willey accompanied with copies of the field notes and approved plat for the survey of 202 miles of chains and 17 links of Standard Correction & Exterior Township Boundary lines, amounting to $2066.81 under contract of April 11th 1868, with a request that the amount should be transmitted to Mr. Williamson at Philadelphia.

As the acknowledgement of the receipt of this account &c. has not been received from your office, nor the receipt of the draft by Mr. Willey agent, it is supposed that the papers have not reached your office. I therefore enclose duplicates of said account, field notes plat & request of Mr. Willey in regard to the disposal of the amount,

to replace the former in case they were lost. The work has been examined and the report & account of the examiner transmitted

Very respectfully,
Your obedient Servant.
Orsino Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Comm.r of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Iowa City, Iowa
November 20th 1858,

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the 24th ult. of letter relative to the Mineral Hills in Clayton County.

I shall take the necessary measures in the premises & hope to give satisfaction in the premises thereby complained of.

Very respectfully
Your obt. Servant
Orsino Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thos. A. Hendricks Esq.
Comm. Gen. Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Iowa City, Iowa
Dec. 6, 1858

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to transmit a copy of Mr. A. Talley's Deputy's Mineral Survey, in detail, with copies of the field notes & official plats of the Survey, with the report of the Examiner for Interfering Claims

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
December 25. 1858.

Sir

I have the honor to transmit the following Township Maps viz:

Townships Nos 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19 & 20 South Range No. 1. East of the Principal Meridian.

Townships Nos 15. 16. 18. 19. 20 & 22 South Range No. 2 East.

Townships Nos 4 & 5 South Range No. 3 East.

Townships Nos 4. 5 & 6 South Range No. 4 East

Townships Nos 3. 4. & 5 South Range No. 5 East

Townships Nos 13. 14 15. 16. 17 & 18 South Range No. 1 West

Townships Nos 15. 16 & 17 South. Range No. 2 West

Township No. 17 South Range No. 3 West

Township No. 13 North Range Nos 27. 29 & 30 East, and

Township No. 18 North Range No. 20 East of the Principal Meridian in New Mexico.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Wm A. Davidson Esq.
Register of the Land Office
Present.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
December 6. 1858.

Sir.

It is my intention to avail myself of the leave of absence authorized by your letter of the 5th October last, and will leave here on the 13th inst.

I have authorized the Chief clerk of this Office David V. Whiting Esq. who is faithful and competent, to be acting Surveyor G. and during my absence.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
(signed) Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commr. of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
December 11 1858.

Gentlemen:

After investigating the respective claims of the town of Santa Maria Cabeza de Baca and the inhabitants of the town of Las Vegas, this office has decided that both of the grants are valid and valid, and that the land embraced in both is completely severed from the public domain, and entirely beyond the control of the general government, and that either grant, in the absence of the other is entitled to the land embraced within the boundaries it calls for. But, as it is not the province of this office to decide between conflicting claims the right of the parties can be obtained on application to the proper tribunals of the Colony.

Very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General
of New Mexico.

Messrs Houghton Smith & Leonard
Attorneys for Claimants of Las Vegas
Santa Fé

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
December 11th 1858.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the contract entered into with R. E. Clements Esq. on the 31st August last amended and corrected as required by your letter of instructions accompanying its return.

Very respectfully
Your obedient servant
William Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas H. Henderson
Commissioner General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
December 24th 1858.

Sir:

In answer to your inquiries concerning the title to a certain piece of land lying in Doña Ana county, belonging to Mr. Hart, I have to state that the validity of the title will depend entirely upon the action had upon the grant made to the town of Doña Ana, if the land in question lies within the boundaries of that grant, which from the description I suppose it does.

Under the former governments of the country it was the duty of the local authorities of the town or corporation to whom a grant had been made by the legal authorities, to lay off and subdivide the lands contained within the boundaries mentioned in the grant and to give to the grantee, a certificate (Chiquela) setting forth the amount of land boundaries, &c. Such auttless is the nature of the title under which Mr. Hart claims. In case the grant to Doña Ana county is confirmed by the Government of the United States, it is the opinion of this office that any claim arising from a legal title, under that grant would be valid. If the grant to Doña Ana is disapproved, of course any claim arising under it would fall with it.

The papers appertaining to the claim of the Town of Doña Ana have been deposited in this office, but have not been perfe

ted in the manner required by law, neither have any parties come forward to claim its attention therefore no action has been had upon it up to this date.

Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servant
David V. Whiting
Sur. Genl. Ad interim

Lieut Jno D. Wilkins
U. S. A
Present.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
December 31 1858.

Sir:
Herewith I have the honor to transmit my account for Rent of office &c. for the quarter ending December 31st 1858

Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A Hendricks Esq.
Commr of the Genl Land office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
December 31 1858.

Sir:
Herewith I have the honor to transmit the accounts of the clerks in this office for the quarter ending December 31, 1858. with their request as to the disposition of their respective drafts.

Very Respectfully
Your obedient servant
(Signed) Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Comr. of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office

Santa Fe New Mexico
January 4th 1859.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to return the contract entered into with H. P. Wilber Esq. Dep. Sur. on the 7th September, with the alterations and amendments required by your letter of instructions

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant
David V. Whiting
Sur. Genl. ad interim

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commissioner of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 9th 1859.

Sir.

Herewith I have the honor to transmit account of Stevenson Archer Esq. Deputy Surveyor, for examination of the work executed by W. E. Clements Esq. Deputy Surveyor, under his contract dated September 7th 1858. amounting to $152.00 which he desires may be disposed of as therein requested.

Very Respectfully
Your obt. Servant
David V. Whiting
Surv. Genl. ad interim

Thos. A. Hendricks Esq.
Commr. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 9th 1859.

Sir

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the accounts of J. J. Battaile, Deputy Surveyor, for Examination of the work executed by Messrs Kelly, Wilber & Clements under their respective Contracts

Mr Battaile requests that the amount of the above accounts be transmitted as per his letter herewith inclosed

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
David J. Whiting
Surveyor General pro interim

Thomas A Hendricks Esq
Comm. of the Genl Land Office
Washington D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 9th 1859.

Sir,

Your communication of Decr 6th 1858 declining the claim of Don Sutton to the tract of Land known as the "Ojo del Oñie" has been received & filed

The case will be taken up as soon as the parties interested will produce the necessary evidence in support of their claim upon the return of the Surveyor General.

Very Respectfully
Your obt Servant
Dav. J. Whiting
Surveyor General pro interim

Wm Claude Jones Esq
Las Cruces N.M.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 11th 1859.

Sir

In reply to your Communication of December 23d 1858 I have to state that the law establishing the office of Surveyor General for New Mexico Kansas & Nebraska, grants one hundred and fifty acres of land to every free white male citizen of the United States or who has declared his intention to become a citizen and who shall have removed to and settled in this Territory prior to January 1st 1858. upon condition of actual settlement & cultivation for four years.

This office has established a rule that no application for a donation will be entertained until the lands are subdivided in such a manner as to enable the applicant to select & point out the particular Range, Township, Section &c he intends locating upon under the donation law. As I presume you arrived in the Territory, after the time limited by law, you cannot of course avail yourself of the benefits of the donation act.

At the last session of Congress this Territory was erected into a Land District and the proper officers having been appointed their office is now opened for the reception of the preemption claims and you are respectfully referred to the Register of the Land Office, Mr A Shriver Esq who resides at this place for any information you may desire

should you wish to avail yourself of the benefits of the preemption laws.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
David L Whiting
Surveyor Genl ad Interim

C. C. Parker Esq
Arizona City
N.M.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe N Mex
January 10th 1859.

Written as above in answer to their letter dated Febr. 1st 1858 to
Messrs. Randolph Monteith &
Edward H. Belcher
Warm Springs. Rio Grande

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 13th 1859.

Sir

Your application for a donation of the N.W. Qr Sect. of Sec 34 T. No 18 S R. No 4 W has been received & filed. Upon the completion of the period required by law, it will be your duty to file the affidavit of two disinterested witnesses that you resided upon & cultivated the land for the four years required by law whereupon a patent will issue.

Very Respectfully
Your obt Servt
David L Whiting
Sur. Genl ad interim

Sidney R. Tilly Esq
Fort Thorn
N Mex

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe. New Mexico
January 18th. 1859.

Sir:

I herewith have the honor to transmit the account of Alexander G. Wilber, Deputy Surveyor, together with approved plats diagram and copies of the field notes and accompanying which is the report of the Examiner for the survey of twelve miles of Standard Correction lines, and five hundred and fifty miles forty chs and twenty five links of Exterior Township and subdivision lines, amounting to the sum of Six thousand five hundred and ninety four 26/100 Dollars which Mr Wilber wishes disposed of in the manner requested in the accompanying letter.

The work herewith sent closes the contract entered into with Mr. Wilber on the 7th Septbr 1858.

Very Respectfully
Your obt Servt
David Whiting
Surveyor Genl ad interim

Hon. A. Hendricks Esq.
Comr of the Genl Land office.
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 17th. 1859.

Sir:

A copy of your letter of August 4th 1858 informing this office that the account of R. W. Kelly for the survey of Standard Parallel and exterior Township Boundaries in New Mexico amounting to $3566.68 under his contract of April 10th 1858, came to hand, is herein. The original never was received.

This office has never received any instructions requiring the

transcript of Field notes to be securely stitched together at the sides before mailing them, as I have reason to believe has been required before, by the closing paragraph of the letter the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged. This duty will be punctually complied with in the future.

Very Respectfully,
Your obt. Servant
David H. Horning
Surveyor Genl. ad interim

Thomas H. Hendricks Esq.
Commr. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Salt Lake City Utah Territory
January 17th 1859.

Sir:

Your communication of December 17th 1858, enclosing a copy of the Tufari estate came to hand yesterday.

I enclose a copy of the instructions of the Commissioner of the General Land Office to this office, in regard to the filing of Private Land claims.

So soon as the instructions above referred to are complied with your claim will be duly filed.

Very Respectfully,
Your obt. Servant,
David H. Horning
Surveyor General ad interim

John R. Bartlett Esq.
Providence
Rhode Island

Surveyor General's Office
Surveyor General's Office
January 26. 1859.

Sir: Your letter of December 21st ult. acknowledging the receipt of Mr. Kelleys account &c and of having directed his draft to be sent to this place, is at hand.

When the account &c was transmitted I enclosed them with a letter from Mr. Kelley to you, requesting that a draft for the amount due should be sent to him at Palmyra Mo. I am positive that his letter accompanied the papers as they were enclosed by me. As the letter of request was detached & separate from the account it has probably been mislaid in your Office.

In answer to that portion of your letter of Dec. 15th desiring this Office to impress upon its employés the necessity of being careful in forwarding all papers which our letters notify you of being sent, I have to state that the accompanying papers are always carefully examined with the letter of transmission and the utmost care is taken by the Principal & Chief Clerk to see that they are kept together and deposited in the Post Office, and being Postmaster myself I am satisfied all the papers leave here together. If they do not reach your Office all at once the fault must be in some Office on the route through which the mail passes and is overhauled.

In Mr Kelleys case, all his papers were placed in a bag under a brass lock, which could not be opened at any Office this side of Saint Louis. The bag was placed under Mr. Kelleys own charge and by him deposited in the Post Office at Saint Louis. If the papers did not all reach your Office at the same time, some of them must have been detained at the Post Office at Saint Louis or some other one on the route.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
David C. Mahin
Surveyor General ad interim

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Genl's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
January 26th 1859.

Sir

A Claim has this day been presented to this office for registry by the "Union Mining Company" for two mines situate in "the Gadsden" Purchase within this Territory. These mines pretport to have been discovered, located upon and are now being worked by H. S. Titus, Elias Darrow, B. G. D. Irwin & others composing said Company.

As no provision has been made for claims of this nature, I would like the Department to furnish this office with such instructions as it may deem necessary in the premises.

Very Respectfully
Your o. s.
David Whiting
Surveyor Genl ad Interim

To
S. A. Hendricks. Esq
Commr. of the G. L. Off.
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
February 5th 1859.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to enclose a copy of my report for the six months ending December 31. 1858 required by the Railway Department.

Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servant
David A. Whiting
Survy Genl ad Interim

Thomas J. Henderson Esq
Commissioner of the Gen'l Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
February 5th 1859

Captain.

In reply to your letter of the 8th ult I have to state that the matter of complaint between the authorities of Santa Cruz & the inhabitants of Sonora belongs exclusively to the Judicial Tribunals of the country & not to this Office whose duties are solely to investigate the genuineness and validity of claims to land arising under the former governments of the country and report them to Congress for its action in the premises.

The deeds you enclose should properly be filed in this Office, but, before the filing is complete it will be necessary to comply with certain forms. I enclose a copy of instructions in Spanish, which will be of service to the parties filing the claim

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
David V. Whiting
Surveyor General ad interim

Capt. R. S. Ewell
Commanding
Fort Buchanan
N. Mx.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
March 17th 1859.

Colonel.

Enclosed you will please find copies of the original and Translations of the grants made by the former governments of the country to Mr. P. A. Armendaris covering the Valverde tract & the land on the opposite side of the river.

These grants appear to be the only ones covering lands in that portion of country at least they are the only ones which have been filed in this Office, or that this Office has any knowledge of.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
David V. Whiting
Sur. Genl ad interim

Col. B. L. E. Bonneville
Commdg. Dept New Mexico
Santa Fe.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
April 4th 1859.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that I reached this place on the 7th inst. and immediately resumed my duties as Surveyor General of New Mexico.

Very Respectfully,
Your obedient servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas H Hendricks
Comm.r of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
April 4th 1859.

Sir:

Herewith accompanying you will please find the accounts for salary of the Clerk in my Office for the quarter ending March 31st 1859.

Very Respectfully,
Your obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas H Hendricks Esq.
Comm.r of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Off.
Santa Fe New Mexico
April 4th 1859.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the accounts of J. F. Battile Esq. Deputy Surv. for examining the r. on of J. Mears, Neal Miller & Clements Sunder, their respective contracts of March 1st & September 7th & August

2d 1858, which were returned for my signature

Mr. Bettale requests that drafts in his favor for the amounts of said accounts be sent to him care of Griffin Dawes & Kemp Baltimore Md.

Upon the arrival of Mr Fraker his account will also be forwarded

Very Respectfully
Your obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Comm^r of the General Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
April 14th 1857.

Sir:

In your communication to this office of the 16th of February last, in following paragraph occurs

"The accounts sent to this office and Mr. John "H. Garretson, for the surveys executed by Garretson & Tiffany under "their contract of January 26th 1855, differed more than "twenty dollars and there was also a discrepancy between the "accounts sent to this office and to Mr. Fred^k F. Kelley "of Palmyra, Missouri, for the surveys he executed under "his contract of August 7th 1858. As the accounts sent "to this office were not changed by the discovery of any errors "in the computation of the surveys, the discrepancies are not "understood. Your attention is called to them, and an "explanation desired."

In regard to the account of Messrs Garretson & Tiffany I beg leave to refer you to your letter of September 18th 1855, acknowledging the receipt of the affidavits, account &c. for the performance of their work, wherein you state that the account had been rejected on payment with the request that a draft in favor of Mr. Garretson for $11.673.61 be retained for him at the Treasury Department until he called for it, and that drafts in favor of Mr. Tiffany for $11.641.61 be

sent to him at San Antonio Texas.

By adding the amounts above stated you will find that they make the sum of $23.575.22 and by reference to the account of Messrs Garretson & Tim sent from this office on the 18th of August 1858, you will find that there is not the slightest discrepancy between the account sent and the amount reported by you for payment.

For the case of Mr. Kelley's account referred to by you in the letter above quoted, I respectfully call your attention to that portion of your letter of December 2nd 1858, acknowledging the receipt of the approved plats and account of Mr. Kelley for subdividing eight Townships wherein you state that "Mr Kelley's account having been found correct I have this day reported it for payment &c."

As the facts above stated contain all the explanations which this office can furnish in compliance with your directions, I deem that no further comments upon the subject are necessary.

In your letter of February 14th 1859, returning the account diagram plats &c. of the surveys executed by H. P. Millar D. S. in order that the certificate of the Surveyor General be attached thereto, you require certain amendments and corrections to be made to the former, As the word "former" referred to in your letter is understood to mean the account, and as the corrections and amendments were not pointed out in your letter, I have caused it to be critically examined, compared & revised in the office, and can find no other corrections or amendment to make except in the signature of the Surveyor General.

I respectfully request that in future, whenever any discrepancies is found in the accounts &c. from this office that they may be pointed out in order that the necessary corrections can be made, whenever they are found to exist

Very Respectfully,
Your obedt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas H Hendricks Esq.
Comr. of the General Land Office.
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
April 15th 1859.

Sir:

The appropriation for the payment of the salaries of the Clerks in this office has been entirely exhausted with their payment for the last quarter. I therefore request to be informed if any provision has been or will be made for their continuance or if they shall be informed that their services will be not longer required. If such shall be your decision, the business of the Land Claims Department of this office must be entirely suspended for the want of clerical force, as there will not be sufficient to keep up with the current business of the Surveyor branch alone.

Very Respectfully
Your obdt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendrick's Esq.
Commr. of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
April 15th 1859.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the account of J. H. Garretson Esq. Dept. Sur. accompanied with copies of the field notes & plat of the military Reservation set down required by your office.

Very Respectfully.
Your obdt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendrick Esq.
Comr. of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
April 15th 1859.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the accounts copies of the field notes, certified plats & diagrams of the surveys executed by H. P. Wilson Deputy Surr, under his contracts dated September 7th 1857, which were returned to this office for correction

Very Respectfully,
Your obdt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commr. of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
April 15th 1859.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of February 22nd ult. enclosing my commission as Surveyor General of New Mexico for four years from the 16th February 1859. together with blank bond &c.

Herewith I have the honor to enclose my bond & oath of office completed as required by your letter of instructions above mentioned.

Very Respectfully,
Your obdt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
April 10th 1859.

Sir:

I am instructed to inform you that the grant to the land of which the deed of Giddings & wife to you covers a portion, has been investigated and approved by this office, and has been transmitted to Washington for the action of Congress in the premises.

As this office can only decide upon claims between individuals and the Government and not between individuals, and as your claim is for a subdivisional portion of the grant above referred to, this office can take no action upon it and as the deed will be better in your hands it is herewith returned.

Very Respectfully
Your obdt Servant
David V. Whiting
C. Clerk

Captain E. H. B. Tandy
Quincy Ill.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
May 7, 1859.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the account of Stevenson Archer, Esq., Examiner of Surveys under contract of R. E. Clements dated August 31, 1858, returned to this Office for correction.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,
Wm. Pelham,
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks, Esq.,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
May 7th 1859.

Sir:

Herewith enclosed you will please find accounts of Leonidas Smith for expenses incurred by him in notifying parties of the time set for the trial of their respective claims; also account of Wm. B. Maurice for stationery purchased and which is absolutely necessary in copying, recording and transmitting to the Seat of Government cases adjudicated before this Office.

These accounts are properly chargeable to the appropriation for surveying such of the private Land Claims in New Mexico as shall have been confirmed by Congress, &c., approved June 12, 1858; and I trust that the several amounts will be transmitted as requested by the parties.

Very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
Wm Pelham,
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks, Esqr,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City,
D.C.

Despacho del Agrimensor General
Santa Fé Nuevo Mejico
a 20 de Mayo de 1859.

Señor:

Es muy importante para los residentes de este lugar que sea establecida la merced concedida por el Gobierno Español para que sea confirmada por el Congreso, y siendo Ud. la Autoridad competente en esos asuntos suplico á Ud. que tome los pasos necesarios para asegurar la presencia de los testigos que sean necesarios para asegurar los fines que se desean.

Soy de Ud.
S. M. S. S.
Wm Pelham
Agrimensor General.

Hon: Antonio Ortiz
Juez de Sucesos
Santa Fé
N. M.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
May 20th 1859

Sir: Herewith I have the honor to transmit plats of the subdivision of certain Townships which I respectfully request may be substituted for those which have been sent heretofore without having the fractional sections numbered as required by your instructions

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
W. W. Wheaton
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Harris Esq.
Commissioner of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
May 21st 1859.

Sir:

The act of Congress establishing this office grants to every citizen of the United States, over one hundred and twenty years of age, who shall have resided in the Territory prior to the first day of January 1858 one hundred and eighty acres of public land, upon the condition of actual settlement and cultivation for five successive years. These claims have all been determined and rejected as a great many have been made to the land by the Mexican government of the country. Applications for donations must be made to this office and are required to state the particulars. Upon strict examination of the sections cited, you are requested to accompany the application with the proof of being a citizen

to become citizens by notification to the Land Office, the longest date time, the land shall be considered abandoned, and notice of any conflicting claim of any Land District now established in this Territory, or the office of Surveyor General for the reception of Pre-Emption claims.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor Genl

Thos. M. Evans Esq.
Fort Fillmore
N. M.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe N. M.
May 21st 1859.

Sir

In answer to your communication of April 25th transmitting to this office your announcement of a mine discovered by you, I have the honor to state that the Government does not recognize the vesting of title to individuals via mines discovered on the public lands. In California it has been customary to allow the discoverer of a mine to work it, if on public land until he abandons it, when it then is liable to be appropriated by another but no title is vested in either. It is the opinion of this office that the same custom would avail in this Territory. When this Territory was ceded to the United States all the laws of Mexico then existing were declared to be in force including such as concerned with the United States as the Mexican laws should be deemed to mining are directly applicable to this case. In this place a liberal and reasonable application thereof are respectfully requested.

Instructions have been issued

pen to the Master Department at Washington in regard to the matter under consideration and when they are received due notice will be given to you.

Very Respectfully
Your ob'd't Serv't
Jno Gilham
Surveyor General

Wm Donaldson Esq.
Cabezon,
N. M.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
December 30th 1859.

Gentlemen

Herewith inclosed you will find a copy of the Contract entered into with you this day for the Survey of Seven hundred and ninety miles of Elevation boundary subdivisional and meander lines on and in the vicinity of the Canadian forks of the Arkansas in the execution of which Contract you will be governed by the laws of the U. S. and the general instructions to Deputy Surveyors a copy of which is in your possession

The Diagram accompanying the Contract shows the portion of Country in which your labors are to be performed and within which you are called for subdivision such lands as in your judgement shall be adapted to settlement and cultivation

Yours Respectfully
Jno Gilham
Surveyor Genl

Robert T. Kelley and John M. Walgar
Deputy Surveyors
Present.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
May 21st 1859

Gentlemen:

Herewith you will please find a copy of the Contract entered into with you on this day for the survey of Eight Hundred and seventy miles of Exterior Boundary, subdivision and meander lines, on and in the vicinity of the Canadian Fork of the Arkansas River, in the execution of which contract you will be governed by the laws of the United States and the General Instructions to Deputy Surveyors" a copy of which is in your possession.

The Diagram accompanying this Contract shows the position of country in which your labors are to be performed, and within which you will select for subdivision such lands as in your judgement are best adapted to settlement and cultivation.

You are also required to date your days work, in your Field Books, before the days work is commenced, and to affix the date to every days work.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
W. Pelham
Surveyor General

Mess Clements & Archer
Deputy Surveyors
Present.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
June 2d 1859.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a circular from your office, dated 18th April last in regard to the examination of surveys & public works, and also your letter of April 23d informing the office of the amount appropriated for the current expenses of the office & for public surveys, & giving instructions in regard to them as well as certain private land Claims which have been confirmed by Congress, all of which will meet with the prompt attention and due compliance of this office.

Very Respectfully your obt Servt
W. Pelham
Surveyor General

James Cooper Esq.
Comm.r of the Genl Land Office
Washington D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
June 12th 1859.

Sir:

I respectfully request that the sum of one thousand five hundred Dollars of the amount appropriated by Congress to defray the current expenses of this Office for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1860 be sent in a draft in my favor to S. J. Spiegelberg Esq care of Seligman & Stettheimer Vasey St. New York, in a draft drawn on the Dist. Treas. of the United States at that place.

This requisition is made at this early period in order to have the means of paying freight &c. on the Stationery & other articles purchased for the use of this Office and which is now on the road from the east.

Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe. New Mexico
June 13th 1859.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit Contract No. 16, entered into with Gilbert T. Kelley and Johnson Hughes (Copartners for the Survey of Hundreds) are hereby notified of Section Twenty Township Subdivision Meridian lines ordered in the recent Act of the Assembly Act. Also contract No. 17, entered into with Reuben & Clements and Alexander Archer for the Survey of eight hundred and twenty miles of Exterior Township Subdivision Meridian lines on Land in the vicinity of the Cimarron River. A copy of the Contract of Messrs Kelley & Hughes, which is a duplicate with respect to the Contract with Gerry Afferson. Both of these Contracts

treaty are accompanied with copies of the instructions given to the parties. It is not recommended to survey a portion of the public lands north of the meridian under the supposition that the appropriation would approximate the estimate made for that object, but as it is exceedingly small, and as it is more important to survey the lands on and in the vicinity of the Canadian I have thought it to be more advantageous to the Government to survey those lands in preference to the others and have therefore expended the entire amount of the appropriation in that portion of Huerfano Cañon and the Canadian and its immediate vicinity.

Very Respectfully
Your obt Servt
Thomas A. Hendricks
Comm'r. of the G. L. Office
Washington D.C.

To
Geo. W. Gilham
Surv. Gen. New Mex.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
May 23d 1859.

Sir

This office has no knowledge of the existence of any Mexican or Spanish grants at or in the vicinity of Fort Craig except those claimed by Mr Armendaris and of which copies have been furnished to you. Mr Stapleton has a claim in the vicinity of the present location of Fort Craig which if not upon the grants claimed by Armendaris cannot be disturbed by any determination made for military purposes as the act establishing this office provides a quarter section to every

citizen locating on the public lands and also gives the rights of pre-emption whenever claimed.

This office cannot consistently deprive settlers from locating upon public land whenever application is made to do so until an order is received from the President of the U.S. reserving it for some particular purpose.

Very Respectfully
Your obt Servt
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Lieut Jno D Wilkins
3d Inf. A.A.A.G.
Present.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe. New Mexico
June 10th 1859.

Sir,

A contract has this day been entered into between this office and John N. Garretson Esq for the Survey of the Pueblo Grants within this Territory that have been confirmed by Congress and he will leave here on Monday morning next the 13th inst for the field of his operations.

It is believed by this office to be a matter of great importance that an agent of your Department shall accompany the Deputy Surveyor in order to explain to the Indians the object of the Survey as well as to protect their in their rights while their boundaries are being run and established.

I therefore request that one may be detailed by you for that purpose.

Very respectfully
Wm Pelham
Sur Gen

James Watkins Esq
Asst Int Affairs
Santa Fe

Surveyor Generals office
Santa Fe New Mexico
June 13th 1859.

Sir

Herewith you will find copy of the Contract entered into with you for the Survey of certain pueblo and town site grants approved by Congress and mentioned in said Contract — You will also find herewith a memorandum book containing the boundaries of the grants you are to survey, and also a translation from the Mexican ordinances and extracts from the instructions furnished to this office in regard to the lenght of the Spanish vara by which you will perceive that a vara is assumed to be equivalent to thirty three american inches. You will assume this as your Standard, and will strictly adhere to it, in the Surveys you are now about to execute.

The boundaries contained in the book herewith transmitted are taken from the original grants filed in this office and are to be surveyed in such a manner as to embrace in each survey the precise tract included in the confirmation.

In surveying such of Pueblo grants as call for one league from each corner of the church you will assume the church to be a square and run a base from its upper which you are to establish your boundary line. After running your boundary the two leagues required you will add thereto the lenght of the church in order to give the grant two leagues square of land exclusive of the church

It will be necessary for you to connect each claim with the nearest public survey in the vicinity, either

by extending a correction, range or township line and connecting it with the boundary line of the claim or meandering it from the nearest line of public survey; the object being to show precisely the township and range in which the claim is situated, in order that it may be embraced in the patent.

Let your field notes be as explicit as possible, giving the lengths of the boundaries, courses and distances, and noting down any objects of interest on and in the vicinity of the lines you run.

Whenever you find that one Pueblo Claim quite "laps" over another you will suspend all further operations as far as that line is concerned and report the facts to this office giving the name of the Pueblo the one it laps over and the distance it covers the other grant and await further instructions concerning the matter, before you proceed with the survey of that particular Pueblo.

Whenever natural objects are mentioned in the grant as boundaries and they cannot be pointed out to your entire satisfaction, or should there be the least doubt in identifying the particular locality wanted you will report the fact to this office and await further instructions before proceeding any further in the survey of that particular grant.

You have been selected for the performance of this important duty on account of your long experience and the faithful performance of your duties in the fulfillment of former contracts given to you from this office and full confidence is reposed in your

skill and ability and the practical of your profession to perform the important and delicate duty now intrusted to you.

Very Respectfully
Your obt. Servt.
Wm. Graham
Sur. Genl.

Mr. John M. Garretson
Deputy Surveyor
Santa Fe. N.M.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe. N. M.
June 25th 1859.

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to transmit Ofc. of Merril Ashurst. Esq for the sum of One hundred Dollars to be paid from the amount appropriated for the Survey of such of the private land claims in New Mexico as shall have been confirmed by Congress &c.

The services for which the above account was created were deemed by this office to be of the greatest importance in order to defend the interest of the Government. A claim to a large tract of land, embracing over 1,000,000 acres was presented a short time since for adjudication and covering lands which have been surveyed and the plats approved and forwarded to your office. The claim purports to be a grant made only a few months prior to the transfer of the Sovereignty of the Country from Mexico to the U.S. and action was held upon it anew after the Cession. Many delicate legal points are involved in the case, and as it is the duty of this office, to protect the interests of the Government as well

as to do justice to individuals, I have deemed it proper to employ competent counsel to assist me in the investigation of the case.

I am aware that no positive instructions authorize the employment of counsel by this office, but the case is one of so peculiar a nature, as to be satisfied in my own mind that I am justified in pursuing the course I have.

The case in question has been duly acted upon and will be transmitted with the action of this office in the premisses with my next annual report.

I trust the Department will sustain me in the course I have taken in regard to the matter, and I ask as a special favor to the office as well as to myself, that the account will be approved and the amount thereof transmitted as therein requested.

Very respectfully &c.
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor Genl.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 30 1859.

Sir: Herewith I have the honor to transmit the accounts of the Clerks in this office for the quarter ending June 30th 1859 with their respective requests as to the manner in which they wish their drafts to be disposed of.

Very respectfully &c.
Wm. Pelham,
Surveyor-General.

Thomas H. Hendricks Esq.
Commr. of the Genl. L. Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 5th 1859.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit contract entered into with John M. Gaultney Deputy Surveyor, for the survey of such of the Pueblo Grants and Private Land Claims as were confirmed by Congress on the 22 December 1858, which I trust will meet with your approval.

The contract was not transmitted at an earlier date, owing to the absence of the Clerk of the Supreme Court, whose approval to the sureties on the bond was required.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant.
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Comm.r of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 5th 1859.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of June 30. ult. enclosing copy of the survey of a tract of land reserved by the President for military purposes in the vicinity of Fort Stanton.

So soon as the connections can be made on the diagrams of this office, your instructions contained in the communication above referred to will be complied with.

Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servant
Wm. Pelham.
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Comm.r of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 7th 1859.

Sir: I have the honor to transmit the following Township Plats viz:

Township	No. 6	South,	Range No. 3	East
Township	" 7	"	"	2. 3. & 4. East
Township	" 8	"	"	4. East
Fractional Township	" 13	North	"	9. "
Township	" 13	"	"	26. 27. 29. 30. 31 & 32 East
Fractional Townships	" 14	"	"	8. & 9 East
Township	" 15	"	"	9. East
Fractional Townships	" 17	South	"	2. 5. & 6 East
" "	" 18	"	"	2. 3. 4. 4. 4. 4. 5 West & 3 East
Township	" 18	North	"	20. East
Fractional Townships	" 19	South	"	3 East & 1. 3. & 4 West
" " "	" 19	North	"	4. 5. & 6 East
Township	" 19	South	"	5 West
Fractional Townships	" 20	North	"	3. 4. & 5. East
" "	" 20	South	"	1. & 2 West & 3. East
" "	" 21	"	"	2. 3. & 5 East
" "	" 22	"	"	3. & 4 East
Township	" 22	"	"	5. East
Fractional Township	" 23	"	"	3. & 5 East
Townships	" 24	"	"	1. & 2 West & 5. & 6 East
Townships	" 25	"	"	1. 2 West & 1. 4. 5. & 6 East, of

the Principal Meridian in New Mexico.

Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General

Wm. A. Davidson Esq.
Register of the Land Office
Prescott.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 7th 1859.

Sir:

Official information has been received at this office of the capture by the Comanche Indians, of the

surveying party under R. E. Clements, Esq., Deputy Surveyor, on the Canadian River, where they have been engaged in executing public surveys, and that all his property and provisions have been taken from him by said Indians, excepting his compass, chains & animals.

As it is your intention under instructions from the Government to proceed to that vicinity to hold a talk with those Indians, I respectfully urge upon you the propriety of carrying out your intention at the earliest possible period, in order to secure the Indians and allow the public surveys in that portion of the Territory now under contract to be completed.

Very Respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Col. James L. Collins,
Superintendent Indian Affairs
Santa Fe New Mexico.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 7th 1859.

Sir:

Herewith enclosed I have the honor to transmit a list of the employees of this office together with their compensation &c. as required by your circular instructions.

The blank in the list is occasioned by the resignation of Mr. J. Howe Watts which took effect on the 1st inst. The vacancy will however be filled so soon as a competent person is found to perform the duties, of which the Department will be informed if filled before the 1st September next.

Very Respectfully,
Your obedient Servant.
Wm Pelham.
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Comm: of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 8th 1859.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit my account for rent of office, fuel &c. for the period of six months, from January 1st to June 30th 1859, showing a balance due from the United States to the Surveyor General of $1130.17.

The appropriation made for the rent of office, fuel stationery &c. of this office is no larger than that made for the Territory of Utah, where there are no private Land Claims to adjudicate upon. The business of the office is gradually increasing, not only in the Land Claim Department but in the surveying department also: consequently the expenses of the office are increased in proportion.

The amount of three thousand dollars appropriated for this office after paying rent, messenger & fuel, will leave only $680 for stationery and other incidental expenses, which will not cover the amount required. It must also be considered that the amount expended has exceeded the appropriation every year since the office has been established, although nothing has been purchased but what has been absolutely necessary — therefore the deficiency accumulates, leaving the amount at the disposal of the office less every year.

The stationery required for the use of the office cannot be had in this Territory, and therefore must be purchased in the Eastern States and freighted out. The freight from Kansas city to this place is charged at the rate of 12¢ per pound, to which must be added the transportation from the place where purchased to Kansas city. This will absorb nearly $400 more, leaving only $280 to purchase the stationery with, which from the bills transmitted, you will perceive will not begin to supply the wants of the office.

Nearly if not one half of the expenditures of the office have been made exclusively for the land claim Department, a more which I will call your attention to the building, which is required to be larger than it would have to be if the duties of the office were confined to surveying alone. A greater and the costlier portion of the furniture has been required for the private land claims. The guard, watchman & messenger

is required almost entirely for that Department. At least one half of the stationery has been consumed in recording land claims, and preparing them for transmission, together with other details thereto appertaining. Notwithstanding all these expenditures required for a branch foreign from that of the surveys of the public lands, not one cent more has been appropriated for this office than what has been appropriated for Utah, and other offices, where no such duties are required from the Surveyor General, although everything purchased here is as high or higher than in any other place in the United States.

Upon due consideration of the facts above mentioned I think it would be just and proper that the deficiency of $1180.17 borne on my accounts for the fiscal year ending June 30 1859, should be paid from the appropriation made "for the survey of such of the private Land Claims as shall have been approved by Congress, including the expenses incurred by the Surveyor General in adjudicating the same," and therefore respectfully request that it be paid from that fund.

If the deficiency is covered in the manner above suggested so as to commence the new fiscal year without any curtailment of the appropriation to cover deficiencies of former years and with a small appropriation for the land claim department, the expenditures which are absolutely necessary will not then exceed the appropriations otherwise the excess will be unavoidable unless it be to the injury of the public service.

Very Respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas H. Hendricks Esq.
Commr. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 9th 1859.

Sir:

The amount apportioned by the Department for the clerical service of this office for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1860, is inadequate to supply the wants of the service for that period, unless

the salaries of the clerks are reduced to such an extent, as to be insufficient for their support even by using the most rigid economy. Such a course would drive them to seek for other means of earning a livelihood, which at present is to be avoided, as their places cannot well be supplied in this Territory.

The Land Claim Department of this office has not been allowed up to this time, anything for the payment of Clerks although a large portion of the work to be performed appertains strictly to that Department, and even with the appropriation heretofore allowed one of the clerks is compelled to perform the services of three.

A large number of private claims have been brought up for investigation since my return from the States in April last, which will require the undivided attention of Clerks heretofore, employed in order to prepare them for my annual report which is required to be transmitted in September next.

There are now three surveyors in the field whose work will be returned to the office shortly, and at a time when all my force will be employed in making up the report and accompanying documents, and if I am compelled to reduce that force, some portion of the work of the office must be neglected, and not only the surveyors will be compelled to wait for their just dues, but my annual report will not be as complete as it should be.

The field notes of the surveys already executed have accumulated to such an extent as to render it necessary to have the different surveys classified and copied in a bound indexed books in order that reference may be had to whatever particular survey is wanted without being compelled to have recourse to the original field notes that have accumulated to such an extent as to cause a great deal of unnecessary delay and delay in selecting the particular survey required from the entire mass of books.

The private Land claims acted upon must also be recorded in suitable journals all of which will require the attention of the entire clerical force from the time the report is commenced and the surveys under contract transmitted to our office until the appropriations for the next fiscal year can be made available.

A list of the Land claims as shall be approved by Congress, calling for subdivisional boundaries, are to be surveyed

it will be necessary to take testimony on the ground in order to establish the particular points called for as boundaries in the grants, in order to do which it will be necessary to take one of the clerk's from his office work thereby reducing the force necessary to be employed. The testimony to be taken in the field will necessarily occupy some time, and when returned to the office will have to be duly recorded and copied for transmission to the seat of government.

All the Township plats transmitted to the Register's office must be accompanied with their respective descriptive lists, which will occupy the attention of two clerks for a considerable time and as the surveys are still in progress much of their time during the entire year will be consumed in the performance of that duty.

In view of the facts above stated and being desirous of keeping the office work from falling behind, I respectfully request that the further sum of four thousand and nine hundred dollars be apportioned to this office to enable me to retain the same clerical force now employed.

Very Respectfully,
Your obedient servant.
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas H. Hendricks Esq.
Comm.r of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
August 11th 1859.

Sir:

Enclosed you will please find copy of a letter addressed to this office by Messrs. Clements & Archer requesting to be released from the further execution of their contract of May 31st ult, on account of having been forbidden by the Indians from continuing their surveys.

As no escort can be obtained for their protection and the continuation of their labors being attended with too much risk of their lives and property, I have released them from the further execution of their contract and have entered into another

contract with them for the survey of 707 miles of Exterior Township Boundaries and subdivision (being the unexecuted portion of the relinquished contract) to be selected from the best lands between the 2d & 3d Correction Lines North and between Ranges 8 & 13 East. This contract you will please find herewith transmitted, and trust that my action in the premises will meet with your approval.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obdt. Servt.
Wm Pelham
Surr. Genl

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commr. of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
August 18 1859

Sir:

Since the date of my last report two thousand four hundred and fifty-two miles sixty-two chains and twenty-nine links of Standard parallel, Exterior boundary and Subdivision lines have been run, examined and reported to the General Land Office and paid for from the appropriation of June 2, 1858.

Under the appropriation of March 3, 1859, contracts have been entered into with Messrs. Kelley & Hagar & Clements & Archer for the survey of one thousand six hundred & sixty miles of Exterior Township Boundary and Subdivision Lines on and in the vicinity of the Canadian Fork of the Arkansas.

Messrs. Clements & Archer under their contract executed one hundred and sixty-three miles forty-two chains and thirty-nine links of Exterior Township & boundary lines, when their party was captured by the Comanche Indians and their provisions and a portion of their property taken from them. As no escort could be had to protect them in the execution of their surveys, they have asked to be released from the balance of their contract, which, under the circumstances, I have done, and have entered into another contract with them for the sur

vey of seven hundred and seven miles of Exterior and subdivision lines between the second and Third Correction Lines North and Ranges Eight and Thirteen East, and the work is now being executed.

A contract has also been entered into with John W. Garretson, Esq. deputy Surveyor for the survey of the private land claims and Pueblo grants that have been confirmed by Congress. This work is now being executed. Five of the Pueblos have been surveyed, and the field notes returned to the office and examined; they have been laid down on the diagram herewith transmitted.

The grant of the Indian Pueblo of Laguna has been filed and approved.

The following town sites and private land claims have been investigated and acted upon, viz:

20 { Town of Las Vegas / Tomas Baca et al
21 Town of Tajique
22 " " Torreon
23 " " Manzano
24 " " San Diaro
25 " " Cañon de San Diego.
26 Juan Bautista ~~Aurelio~~ Vigil et al
27 Town of las Trampas
28 Heirs of Sebastian Martin
29 Town of Anton Chico
30 Indians of Laguna
31 Gaspar Ortiz present claimant
32 Town of Mora.
33 Heirs of Pedro Armendariz, Valverde
34 " " " Opposite Valverde.
35 Antonio Sandobal Bosque del Apache.
36 Town of Chamita
37 " " Tyon
38 Ramon Vigil

The order requiring the Surveyor General to examine the surveys in person and also the establishment of the boundaries of the claims which may be approved by Congress will require the absence of the Surveyor General from his office during a great portion of the year, and it is recommended that provision be made for carrying on the business of the office in a legal manner during his absence

The attention of the Departament is called to the importance of the establishment of the boundaries where natural landmarks are called for of such claims as shall be confirmed by Congress, and it is

requested that all the facilities which may be necessary be furnished without restriction in order that they may be established correctly.

It is also important that provision be made for the payment of such witnesses as may be summoned by the Surveyor General to mantain the rights of the Government or to establish boundaries whenever it may be necessary to summon them.

A commission is recomended to adjudicate upon private land claims.

If a commission is not created it is respectfully recommended that a Law Agent be furnished the office to appear on the part of the United States. A seal should be furnished, and the authority to summon witnesses, punish for contempt, and cause claimants to bring in their claims, should be well defined by law

The sum allowed for clerical force in the office for the present fiscal year is inadequate to meet its wants, and, unless, a further sum is allowed, the clerks will have to be discharged after the appropriation is exhausted, and the office work remain unfinished until a further appropriation is made.

No law books having been furnished for the private land claim departament of the office as requested, an estimate has been made for their purchase. As it is indispensable to have them and unpleasant to the office to be compelled to borrow from the private libraries of the lawyers whenever wanted — and in some cases the books wanted for reference cannot be had in the country.

I have also estimated for the clerks for the Land Claim Department, which are absolutely necessary to keep up the business of that Branch of the office.

The mining interests of the country demand that legislation be had on the subject.

The speedy action of Congress, is respectfully requested upon the private land claims which are transmitted for its consideration.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commr. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Estimate.

of appropriations for the Office of the Surveyor General of New Mexico for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1861.

For Salary of William Pelham, Surveyor General.			$ 3100
" " David V. Whiting Chief Clerk		$ 2100	
" " Thomas Mears Calculator		1800	
" "		1800	
" " Jose Epifanio Vigil Translator		2000	
" " Juan C. Tapia Draftsman		1800	
" " Jonh H. Mink	Transcribers	1800	
" " Leonidas Smith	of	1800	
" " David J. Miller	Fieldnotes	1800	14.900
" " Two Clerks to be employed in the Private Land Claim Department to record Claims and Pueblo Grants, as required by instructions of August 21, 1854 at $ 1800 each.....			3.600
Jesus Leyba, Messenger and Watchman			720
" Fuel, Office Rent, Stationery, &c. for Surveyor General proper			3000
" Fuel, Stationery &c. for Private Land Claim Department			1600
" Surveying such of the Private Land Claims and Pueblo Grants as shall be confirmed by Congress including expenses incurred in their adjudication, establishment of boundaries &c.			40.000
" Continuing the survey of the Base Meridian, Standard Parallel, Township and Section Lines			100.000
" the Purchase of Spanish and English Law Books required in the adjudication of Private Land Claims			2000

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe New Mexico,
August 15, 1859.

Wm Pelham.
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
August 22d 1859

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the account of John W. Garretson Esq. Deputy Surveyor accompanied with approved plats and copies of the field notes of the survey of the Indian Pueblos of Tesuque, Pojoaque, Nambé, San Ildefonso and Santa Clara with a request from Mr. Garretson as to the disposal of his account.

Mr Garretson requests that a draft in his favor on the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York be sent to him to the care of Hopkins Harden and Kemp at Baltimore Md, and the balance be transmitted to him at this place in a draft on the same Assistant Treasurer.

It was impossible for me to examine the work in person as my official duties imperatively demanded my presence at the office and my Clerks were all so much engaged in preparing my official report that they could not be spared for the service.

I made a request of Mr. Collins the Superintendent of Indian Affairs at this place, to allow an agent to accompany the Surveyor, which he done, detailing Mr. Archuleta for that service. Mr. Archuleta accompanied Mr. Garretson during the survey of the Pueblos above mentioned, and represented the interests of the Indians in the premises. Under the circumstances I am of the opinion that his presence will answer the same purpose as if an examiner had been sent from this office.

Herewith you will please find enclosed a copy of Mr. Collins instructions to Mr. Archuleta.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
W. Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
August 22nd 1859

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the account of R. E. Clements and S. Archer, together with approved plats and copies of the field notes of the survey of one hundred and sixty nine miles, forty two Chains and sixty nine links of exterior and subdivision lines amounting to Two thousand and thirty four 40/100 Dollars accompanied with their request as to the disposal of the amount.

When it was proposed to survey the land in and in the vicinity of the Cimarron the country was comparatively free from the attacks of hostile Indians, but since the second war made upon them in Texas they have been driven into this section of country, where the surveying party were captured and ordered to leave the premises. As no escort was furnished to Messrs Clements and Archer they were compelled to obey the orders of the Indians. Such being the state of affairs it was impossible to have the work examined as required by your instructions.

I have every confidence in the integrity and honesty of the contractors and am well satisfied that the work has been properly and correctly executed and trust their account will be paid without the customary certificate of examination.

Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office.
Santa Fe New Mexico
August 27th 1859.

Sir.

In explanation of the account of Hall & Porter for freight on blank books brought out by them for the use of this office, I have to state, that there are only certain seasons of the year in which transportation trains cross the plains arriving here between the months of June and September. At all other seasons of the year every thing required has to be transported by the United States mail stage, which having no opposition, fix such rates of freight as they deem proper, and as the books were required to reach here when they did, there was no other resource left but to have them brought out in the manner above stated.

Messrs Hall and Porter reside at Independence, and it was necessary to have the certificate of the correctness of the account made here before sending their account to them for their signature as a receipt by an Agent is not taken by the Department, unless accompanied with the authority of the agent to act for his principal. Again, the parties were not conversant with the form of making out accounts against the Department, I caused it to be made here, and the papers were transmitted to them at Independence, to be completed, and they were requested to forward them to Washington themselves which I presume they did, as they have been duly received Messrs Hall and Porter or either of them can certify to the above facts if required.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant

Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq
Comm^r of the General Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
September 16. 1859

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit the list of persons employed in this office corrected according to your instructions

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
Signed Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
September 12th 1859.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit my annual Report, estimates & a portion of the documents to accompany the report, contained in thirteen packages and one Roll of Maps.

Cases Nos 20. 36. & 38 have not been completed but will be ready to forward by the next mail.

Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esqr.
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals office
Santa Fe. New Mexico
September 1st. 1859.

Sir.

I have the honor to report that 2,452 miles 62 chains and 29 lks of standard correction, exterior boundary and subdivision lines have been run, the work examined, reported to the General Land office and paid for from the appropriation of June 12th 1858 since the date of my last report.

Contracts were entered into on the 31st. May last with Messrs Shelley and Hagar and Clements and Archer for the survey of 1660 miles of Exterior boundary and subdivision lines, on and in the vicinity of the Canadian fork of the Arkansas River.

While prosecuting their labor under the above contract the party of Messrs Clements and Archer were captured by the Commanche Indians and a portion of their property taken from them. After running 163 miles 42 chs and 39 lks of Exterior & Subdivision lines they were compelled by the Indians to abandon their work and leave the country. On account of this interruption they have asked to be relieved from the further prosecution of their work in that vicinity. Believing that no more surveys can be executed there at present without great risk both of life and property, I have granted their request, and have entered into a new contract with them for the survey of 707 miles of Exterior Boundary and Subdivision lines between the Second and third correction lines north and between Ranges Nos 8 & 13 East.

All of the foregoing contracts have been completed and the work has been filed and is now being examined and prepared for transmission to the General Land Office. This work will consume all appropriations which have been heretofore made for public surveys in this Territory.

On the 10th of June last, I entered into contracts with John M. Garretson Esq. for the survey of the Pueblo Grants and private land claims that were approved by Congress at its last Session. The Pueblos of Tesuque, Pojoaque, Nambé, San Ildefonzo and Santa Clara have been surveyed, the field notes filed and copies thereof and approved plats transmitted to your office. The balance of the work is now under operation.

The grant to the Indian Pueblo of Laguna made by the Government of Spain on the 25th September 1689 has been filed, examined & approved and is herewith transmitted for confirmation.

A dispute has existed for many years between the Indians of the above Pueblo and those of Acoma whose grant has been confirmed by Congress, in regard to the boundary between them. I have thought it prudent to suspend the survey of Acoma lands until the Laguna grant is confirmed in order to survey and establish a compromise line between them and avoid any further contest.

The following private land claims and Mexican grants have been filed and acted upon by this office

and copies thereof forwarded for the action of Congress in the premises viz

20. } Town of Las Vegas
Thomas Beck et al
21. Town of Tajique
22. Town of Torreon
23. Town of Manzano
24. Town of San Pedro
25. Town of Cañon de San Diego
26. Juan Mto Vigil et al
27. Town of Las Trampas.
28. Heirs of Sebastian Martin
29. Town of Anton Chico
30. Indians of Laguna
31. Jaspar Ortiz
32. Town of Mora
33 Heirs of P. Armendaris Valverde
34. " " " Ascente Valverde
35. Antonio Sandoval
36. Town of Chamita.
37. Town of Tejon
38 Ramon Vigil

Claim No. 26. Juan Mto Vigil et al: has been rejected for a want of compliance with the conditions of the grant and for being destitute of merit

A large portion of the grants existing in this Territory call for natural boundaries and if approved by Congress will require the presence of the Surveyor General on the ground in order to establish those boundaries either by taking testimony or other means and it is important that he be armed with authority to summon witnesses for that purpose, and that the necessary means be furnished to pay the expense incurred in their establishment, as well as the per diem and mileage of witnesses. &c.

The instructions issued to this office on the 21st August 1854. require the

Surveyor General to guard the Public against fraudulent and antedated claims, and to bring the title papers to the test of the original signatures &c, but up to this time no provision has been made to enable me to comply with those instructions as I am not permitted to summon witnesses on the part of the United States for the reason that the government claims nothing; neither is any authority given to compel the attendance of witnesses even if the authority existed to summon them, and unless some provision is made to accomplish that object it will be impossible to prevent fraud from being practised.

It is again recommended that a commission be established to adjudicate upon and decide the validity or invalidity of private land claims in this Territory.

If a commission is not established it is recommended that a law agent be appointed to superintend the interests of the government in the premises. Provision should also be made to cause claimants to file their claims within a limited period. The mode of summoning witnesses, punishing for contempt, the manner of conducting appeals &c should be well defined by law.

An appropriation of Five Hundred Dollars was made by Congress, for the purchase of law books for the use of this office, but although repeated applications have been made for it and a list transmitted to the General Land Office, as required by the Commissioner, neither the books nor the money for their purchase have

been received and as it is probable that the appropriation has reverted back to the Treasury, I have estimated for an amount sufficient to purchase the books needed. These Law books are absolutely necessary for reference in the adjudication of cases before this office, and it is extremely disagreeable and improper to borrow them from private libraries when they are wanted, and many of them can not be had in any part of the Territory.

Frequent applications have been made to register claims for newly discovered mines in this Territory and as that branch of industry is being rapidly developed, it is important that some legislation should be had in regard to the mining interests of the country.

I respectfully call your attention to the propriety of the speedy action of Congress with the claims herewith transmitted, as well as those sent with former report.

I again recommend that a seal be furnished to this office with which all copies that may be called for shall be authenticated.

I also call your attention to the propriety of authorizing Deputy Surveyors to administer oaths to their assistants, when they are in the field at a distance from any magistrate or other officer authorized by law to administer oaths.

Herewith I have the honor to transmit a map of the Survey executed in this Territory and exported to the General Land office

also estimates of appropriations for this office for the fiscal year ending June 30. 1861.

I have the honor to be
Very Respectfully
Your obt servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thos. A. Hendricks Esq.
Commiss. of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
September 28th 1859.

Sir:

Herewith enclosed you will please find the notice and schedule of Documents composing claim No. 30. Owing to the absence of Mr. Watts and a defect requiring correction in the notice it could not be forwarded when my report was transmitted. I respectfully request that they be filed with the other papers in the case.

Very Respectfully
Your obdt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commr. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
October 1st 1859.

Sir.

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the accounts of the Clerks in this Office for their salaries for the quarter ending September 30th 1859, which I trust will be paid in the manner requested by them.

Very Respectfully
your obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esq.
Commr. of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
September 27th 1859.

Sir.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Vol. 11 Statutes at Large transmitted from your office on the 18th August last.

I respectfully request that Vol. 10 of the Statutes at Large be transmitted so as to complete the sett as it has never been received at this office.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esqr.
Commr. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals office
Santa Fe New Mexico
October 8th 1859.

Sir.

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the account of R. P. Kelley & J. W. Hager for the survey of 404 miles, 134 chs & 46 lks of Exterior & Boundary and Subdivision lines under their contract dated May 31. 1859. amounting to $4.856.12 accompanied with copies of the field notes and approved plats of the survey thereof, together with their request as to the disposal of the amount due them.

Enclosed you will also please find the report of the Examiner with his account and also a request that the amount due him be sent as therein requested, all of which I trust will meet with your approval

Very Respectfully
Your obt. Serv't
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thos. A. Hendricks Esq.
Comr. of the Genl Land Office
Washington, City

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
October 23rd 1859.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit account of C. E. Clements & S. Archer Deputy Surveyors for the survey of 738 miles 67 chains of exterior boundary and subdivision lines, amounting to the sum of $8866. 05 accompanied with approved plats and copies of the field notes of the survey thereof, also the report of the examiner and a request from Messrs Clements & Archer as to the disposal of the amount due them.

The work herewith transmitted completes the contract entered into with Messrs Clements & Archer on the 13th July last.

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt. Servt.
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A. Hendricks Esqr.
Commr. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
Octbr. 15th 1859.

Sir,

A difficulty having arisen concerning the boundaries of the Indian Pueblos of Santo Domingo, San Felipe and Sandia which requires the interposition of the Indian Department, Mr Garretson has been compelled to suspend the further execution of his contract, and as Mr Garretsons presence will be required in the States before the matter can be adjusted and written det in before he can finish, he has requested to be released from the further execution of his contract.

After a careful examination of the facts in the case, I have complied with Mr Garretsons request and have entered into a contract with R. E. Clements Esq for the survey of the

Indian Pueblos of Sandia, Santo Domingo San Felipe and the town of Chilili, which contract is herewith transmitted and your approval thereof requested

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor Genl.

Hon. Jacinto Ortiz Esq. Surveyor Genl.
Com. of the Land Office

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
November 11th 1859.

Sir:

It is made my duty to obtain from reliable sources all the information I can in regard to the lands in this Territory and their adaptability for settlement and cultivation and having been a resident of the Territory for some time I have no doubt you feel an interest in the development of its resources, I therefore respectfully request, if compatable with the interests of the public service that you will give me at your convenience all the information you possess in regard to the country passed over by Capt. E. Macomb Top. Eng. on his recent exploration of the San Juan river as you were in command of the escort that accompanied him on the trip.

Very Respectfully
Your obdt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General.

Lieut. M. T. Cogswell
8th Inf. U. S. A.
Fort Fillmore
N. Mexico.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
November 11th 1859.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit account of J. F. Bataille Deputy Surveyor for examining the surveys executed by R. E. Clements and Stevenson Archer under their contract dated July 13th 1859, together with his request in regard to the disposal of the amount due him.

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt. Servt.
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Thomas A Hendricks Esqr.
Commr. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
November 12th 1859.

Sir Herewith I have the honor to transmit account of Robt. P. Kelley & John W. Hayes Deputy Surveyors accompanied with approved plats and copies of the field notes for the survey of 362 miles 21 chains and 70 links of Subdivision and meander lines amounting to the sum of $4347.25/p.

The above surveys complete the contract entered into with Messrs. Kelley & Hayes on the 31st May ult.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant.
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Thomas A. Hendricks Esqr.
Commissioner of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyors Office.
Santa Fe New Mexico
November 26th 1859.

Sir

While on a visit to Washington City last winter Hon Thomas A Hendricks your predecessor in office advised with the Hon M. A. Otero, the delegate from this Territory, and myself, in regard to the best manner of adjudicating upon the private land claims originating before the cession of this country to the United States After various suggestions made by Mr Otero, Mr Hendricks and myself it was finally determined by the Commissioner to furnish a Clerk for the Land Claim department and to employ a Law Agent to aid me in the investigation of those claims; and he stated in the presence of Mr Otero that instructions to that effect would be given to me. Also he gave me at the same time verbal authority to fit up a Court room for the prompt and convenient despatch of the business, stating the business of Surveyor General could not conveniently be transacted in the Court room where the investigation of Land titles was in progress.

Upon my return to the Territory a case was presented for adjudication covering over two millions of Acres of land located in one of the most Central and frequented parts of the Territory, involving important questions of law which in my opinion required the assistance of legal Counsel Believing it was not the intention of the Government to abandon all its claim to the lands within the Territory, and that instructions would soon be forwarded to me to employ a law agent in accordance with the verbal promise made to Mr Otero and myself, I did not hesitate to employ Mr Ashurst Esq an able and competent Attorney to represent and protect the interest of the Government in the case pending

After deciding upon the case I caused Mr Ashurst,

to make out his account for one hundred dollars, the sum agreed upon, which in my opinion considering the magnitude of the claim and the services rendered the Government by Mr Ashurst, was reasonable if not a very small fee, and I certified and transmitted it to the General Land Office, explaining the nature of the case and the necessity in my opinion for engaging Mr Ashurst's services.

On the 1st of September last I received a communication from Joseph A Wilson Esq Acting Commissioner of the General Land Office dated 4th August last, informing me that "in legal contemplation, the Surveyor General unaided by counsel, is adequate to the duties devolving upon him by the statute, and, as there is no authority of law for such payment as that indicated by the aforesaid voucher, it is disallowed and rejected" and in conclusion I am called upon to furnish" a full and detailed report with a copy of the grant names of grantees, all the evidence, names of counsel claiming, and under what pretense the claim is alleged to have been made" This latter requirement has been complied with, and the papers called for will be found in full in Claim No 26, Juan B Vigil et al Jornada del Muerto, transmitted with my last annual report.

Although the acting Commissioner places a higher estimate upon my legal attainments than they actually deserve I venture the assertion that there is not a jurist in this or any other country – no matter how profound and extensive his legal acquirements may be – who will not avail himself when he can of suggestions by counsel on both sides of a question, when they are applicable to the case pending. In the case of Juan B Vigil important legal questions were involved, and as the claim is large and perhaps very valuable it was presumed it would be taken up to the highest Court known to the country – therefore the importance of having the papers in every respect in legal form and that no points should be neglected or overlooked which would protect the interest of the Government.

In addition to the promise of the Commissioner that I should have a law Agent to aid me in the investigation of the land Claims in this Territory to strengthen my position allow me to respectfully call your attention to the latter clause of section 8th of the act of Congress of July 22. 1854 establishing this office which for the purpose of ascertaining the origin, nature, character and extent of all claims to lands under the laws usages and customs of Spain and Mexico authorized the Surveyor General to "issue notices summon witnesses, administer oaths and do and perform all other necessary acts in the premises" To impress the importance of that portion of the law upon this office, it is quoted in the Instructions issued from the General Land Office, on the 21st August 1854 to this office. In the absence of special instructions from the General Land office such as were promised me by the Commissioner I respectfully contend my action in the premises was legal and proper, it being one of those necessary acts provided for in the law, and contemplated in the general instructions of August 21. 1854. In regard to the authority of law for the payment of the fee charged by Mr Ashurst for his services as a lawyer. I will respectfully refer you to the act of Congress of the 12th June 1858. making appropriation of the sum of fifteen thousand dollars for the Survey of Pueblo and private land claims in New Mexico "including the expenses incurred by the Surveyor General in adjudicating the same". Mr Hendrick states to Mr Otero and Myself - and he had stated the same to Mr Otero in a letter - it was his opinion the salaries of a law Agent and Clerk as well as other Expenses incurred by the Surveyor General in adjudicating the land claims in the Surveyor Generals Office could lawfully be paid out of the appropriation referred to. and had Mr Hendricks remained in Office he doubtless would have given such an order.

Upon receipt of the Acting Commissioner's letter rejecting Mr Ashurst's account I promptly paid the hundred dollars out of my private funds and I now submit the matter to you to decide if the loss incurred shall be borne by me individually or be paid by the Government from the fund designated. If the claim of Mr Ashurst shall be deemed by you to be just against the Government. Which I doubt not will be the case upon an examination of the subject I respectfully request a draft for the amount be forwarded to me at this place at your convenience

Very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham.
Surveyor General
of
New Mexico.

Hon Samuel A Smith
Commissioner General Land Office
Washington City

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
December 3rd 1859.

Sir.

I respectfully request that a Draft for $1.500, the remaining half of the appropriation made by Congress for the contingent expenses of this Office for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1860 be transmitted to me to the care of J. J. Spiegelberg at Seligman & Stettheimer's Veesy St. New York.

My accounts for Rent of office, Fuel &c for the quarter ending Sept. 30th 1859 will be embraced in those which will be rendered at the end of this quarter. My return will therefore embrace the period from July 1st to December 31st 1859.

Very Respectfully
your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Hon. S. A. Smith Esq.
Comm. of G. Genl. Land Office
Washington D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
December 3rd 1859.

Sir:

I have been informed by Messrs. Clements and Archer that the Draft for the payment of surveys executed by them under their contract of May 31st 1859. the account for which was transmitted from this Office on the 22d August last has never been received by them, although the receipt of the papers has been acknowledged and information transmitted to this Office of its having been reported for payment.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant.
Ash Pelham
Surveyor General

Samuel A. Smith
Comm. of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
December 3d 1859.

Sir

On the 23d April last. this office was notified by the Commissioner of the Genl Land Office, of the confirmation by Congress of certain Pueblo grants, and town sites, and instructions transmitted for their survey, and directions given in regard to the execution of the plats for transmission to the General Land Office.

In conformity with these instructions I entered into a contract with John W Garretson Esq, a Deputy Surveyor, for the survey of the grants which had been approved, specifying in the contract, that the Rio Grande del Norte, and the Chama river, wherever said rivers passed through any of the claims to be surveyed should be meandered. This contract was transmitted to the Genl Land Office, on the 5th July last, and its receipt acknowledged on the 6th August, and as no objection was made to it, its approval was taken for granted,

On the 22nd of August last Mr Garnetson's accounts for the survey of five of the Pueblo grants, was transmitted to the Genl Land Office for payment, accompanied by the necessary copies of the field notes and approved plats of the survey.

The plats transmitted contained all that was required by the instructions of April 23rd, but as the diagram mentioned in those instructions, as having been transmitted, was never received here, the plats perhaps were not made, in strict accordance with it.

The papers transmitted, have all been returned by the Acting Commissioner, and as the samples like which the plats are to be constructed, have not reached here, although sufficient time has elapsed for them to have arrived. Mr Garnetson will be kept out of his just dues for an indefinite time, as I have been instructed to transmit no more pueblo surveys, until the aforementioned samples are received.

The Acting Commissioner, also refuses to allow any compensation for meandering the stream running through the grants as stipulated in the contract, as it is considered a useless and unnecessary expenditure — The provision requiring the meander of the Rio Grande and the Chama river, is expressly and clearly set forth in the contract received at the Genl Land Office, on the 6th of August last, and if objection was made to it in justice to the Deputy Surveyor, it should have been made at that time by which the performance of extra labor, involving additional expenditures, would have been avoided, instead of allowing the matter to rest, until the survey had been executed, and the account for it transmitted for payment as has been the case in the present instance

The Rio Grande del Norte, is a stream of some magnitude, which runs through the entire extent of the Territory from North to South, At the present time, the population of the country is comparatively small, and is not that amount of enterprize that exists in the more settled parts

of the United States, but, as the population and settlements of the country advances, and the demand for imports and exports become more urgent, the Rio Grande will become a navigable stream, and its course will necessarily be required to be kept free and uninterrupted. By the decision of the acting Commissioner this object cannot be obtained, as the river will be embraced in the area of the lands granted to the Indians, and as these lands are to be extended to them it gives them the entire and exclusive control of the river within the boundaries embraced in the patent, and conveys to them the right of obstructing its course by the erection of mill dams, or other works, which they may deem fit to construct, which is believed to be contrary to the intention of Congress when their grants were confirmed.

Another very important matter to be taken into consideration in this case, is the fact that nearly all of the crops in this country are raised by irrigation, and a large portion of those crops are located in the valley of the Rio Grande, which water is almost exclusively relied upon for watering the land. If this water is to be subjected to the control of the Indians through whose grants it passes, the citizens of the Territory will have to submit to any imposition or annoyance which the Indians may choose to subject them to, or do without water, to irrigate their crops.

The instructions issued to this office on the 21st of August 1854 require me to bear in mind the principle that "it is obligatory on the government of the United States to deal with the private land titles and the Pueblos precisely as Mexico would have done had the sovereignty not changed." These instructions are clear and positive, and I desire to show that in causing the Rio Grande to be meandered in the cases under consideration I have complied implicitly with those instructions. In law 7, title 4 book 17 of the Recopilacion de las Indias, there is a decree of Charles 5th ordering that "all the timber, pastures and water, in plains and

mountains embraced within grants, which have or shall in future be made in fee (Senorio) in the Indias shall be common to both Spaniards and Indians" Again in law 5 title 4 book 4 of the same Recopilacion there is a decree made by the same Emperor in the subsequent year (1541) declaring that "all pastures timber, and waters, shall be common in the Indias"

The general regulations in regard to the measurement of water, published by the Reo Don Domingo Lasso de Vega in 1761. and dedicated to the Royal Audience of Mexico, for the use of the officers of the Crown declare "unclaimed goods "shipwrecked goods, unclaimed estates, belonging "to intestates, waters public lands, and mines, are "the exclusive property of the Crown and in order "to obtain water it is necessary that its particular "owners shall maintain and prove that it has been "given to them by special grant from the Kings, their "Catholic Majesties themselves, or in their name, That "the right to distribute the water is vested in the "Prince and in no other person, That the quasi "possession in which the Royal grant is set up "be it by measurement or in any other manner "shall be declared to be null and void unless the "Royal patent shall be shown in the distribution" (Translated from the original Spanish) Juan de Solorzano in his commentaries on the laws of the Indias states, "that whatever portion of the royal property, which may "not have been granted away by the royal hand of the "Sovereign, remains under his sovereign and despotic "control; and it is only necessary to state for the "clear understanding of the subject, that all the "waters of the public rivers, is for common and "public use and any one is at liberty to take "whatever he may require for the supply of "his domestic wants" (Translated from original Spanish) Many other decrees and laws of Spain could be referred to in regard to this subject, but it is believed those already cites are sufficient to sustain the grounds I have taken in the premises.

The Pueblo grants within this Territory, were made between the years 1680 and 1691 and

consequently were subject to the edicts and decrees of the King of Spain & the Sovereign Cortes, and under the control of the Royal Audiencia of New Spain. These grants do not show upon their face any authority from the sovereign, to the granting officer, to grant the water running through their lands to the Indians, neither have they shown any subsequent patent from His Catholic Majesty or from any of his subalterns. by his authority giving them unrestricted water privileges to the Exclusion of their Spanish neighbors. They were therefore only entitled to use from the "public river" such water as they wanted for domestic purposes in common with their neighbors — Also the cases that I have seen in which this subject is referred to, show that it was contrary to the policy of both the Spanish and Mexican governments to vest the Exclusive title to water, pastures and timber, in individual hands, and nearly all of the grants acted upon by this office or deposited in its archives expressly declare that the waters watering places, pastures and timber shall be free and common to all, such being the well known and clearly expressed policy of Spain as well as Mexico. the United States in passing upon these Pueblo grants using the words of the instructions quoted, are obligated to deal with them precisely as Mexico would have done had the sovereignty not changed, and as that government would have declared the rivers passing through the Indian lands as public property it becomes the duty of the government of the United States to seperate them from those lands which can only be done by meandering their margins in order to ascertain their area, and having the undeniable proofs before me of the manner in which the former governments would have acted in the premises. I would have disobeyed my instructions had I omitted to cause the rivers passing through the Pueblo lands to be meandered thereby making them public property instead of being left under the entire control and subject to the caprices and

exactions of the Indians and giving them the opportunity of annoying or laying an unjust tax upon the citizens of the Territory, unauthorized by the laws of their former governments, the rights acquired under which they cannot be deprived of neither by treaty stipulation or any subsequent act of the government to which they have been transferred.

Believing that I have acted in accordance with law and instructions, and have pursued the policy of the government under which the grants were made. I respectfully submit that the decision of the acting Commissioner disallowing the account for the meanders of the Rio Grande where it passes through a Pueblo grant or private claim be reversed, and that Mr Garretson be allowed compensation for that kind of work embraced in his contract, and also that the area of said river be excluded from any grant it may pass through and the same declared to be common or public property.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham.
Sur Genl of N.M.

Hon Samuel A Smith
Comr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
December 16 1859

Sir:

I respectfully request to be informed if I shall continue fitting up the work now authorized by verbal direction of your predecessor Mr. Hendricks, & for which I have already ~~been~~ made preparations.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
Wm. Pelham
Sur Genl of N.M.

Samuel A Smith Esq.
Comr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
December 10 1859.

Sir:

On the 8th July last, I transmitted to your office my account for "Rent of Office, Fuel, &c" for the 1st & 2d Quarter 1859, showing a balance due the Surveyor General of $1130.17.

All of the accounts thus transmitted were returned to this office by Jos: Wilson Esq. acting Commissioner, on the 9th August last, disallowing vouchers Nos. 4 & 5, and instructing me to prepare anew my entire account, with the exclusion of the vouchers disallowed.

The point has never been disputed, that the General Land Office has the right to control the disbursement of the appropriations made for that branch of the public service, but I think that the charge of lavisheness and extravagance on the part of this office is unmerited.

I must again call your attention to the fact that although duties are entailed upon this office which are separate and distinct from the public surveys and requiring the services of an additional number of Clerks and the consumption of a large amount of stationery, no more provision is made for its necessary expenditures, than is made for Utah, Oregon, Minnesota, and other offices where the Surveyor General is not required to adjudicate upon private Land Claims. The stationery which has been purchased, was absolutely necessary for the performance of the work required to be done, and instead of having stationery enough to last for two years at least, without making the purchases contained in vouchers Nos. 4 & 5 disallowed, as is alleged by the acting Commissioner, I was compelled to await for the arrival of the stationery bought of Mr. Maurice, of Philadelphia, in order to obtain foolscap paper to prepare our annual report and accompanying documents.

The Department must also take into consideration the fact that very little stationery is brought to the country and that is generally of such low inferior

quality that it will not answer the purpose for which it is wanted. Nearly all the stationery that we have used heretofore, has been ordered from the Eastern cities and brought out for our special use, and as our communication with Missouri from whence all the transportation wagons trains start, is limited to the Summer months only, we are compelled to order stationery enough to last at least, one year, and when the freight, which will cost about the sum of fifteen cents per pound from New York to Santa Fé, is added to the amount of the original cost of the articles, our stationery must necessarily cost much more than at other offices where the heavy tax of overland transportation is avoided.

Included in Mr. Maurice's bill which has been disallowed are a number of Blank Field Books, for the use of the Deputy Surveyors, which cannot be purchased in the country, and which it is necessary to have of a uniform size and pattern. Another charge is for ruling blank description lists and Township plats samples of both of which were shown to Mr. Dallas acting Clerk of surveys in your office, and highly approved by him, as a saving of time and labor on the part of the clerks. The ruling of descriptive lists, is a very tedious and dilatory process, when done by hand, and errors frequently made involving the waste of valuable and costly paper. The books and blanks above mentioned were prepared and lithographed under my own inspection while in Philadelphia last winter, and I am satisfied that they are correctly prepared, and fully adapted, to the purposes for which they are wanted. Samples of both the descriptive lists and Township plats are herewith enclosed for your inspection.

A great number of articles were purchased when the office was established which were necessary to commence business, such as tables, desks, chairs &c. to which have since been added blank books for recording the field notes, as well as other articles required to systematize the work of the office and facilitate its operations in the future, all of which will not have to be purchased again for some time to come & although similar provisions were made in Kansas & Nebraska by the appropriation of $14,000 for that object, during the first year of the establishment of the Surveyor General's

office in that Territory, no provision of a similar nature has ever been made in New Mexico. The appropriations for the contingent expenses of the Land Board in California have exceeded $300.000 while no special provision has ever been made for the private land claim branch of this office, notwithstanding the Private Land Claims in New Mexico are more numerous than they have been in California.

As the articles then purchased exceeded the amount of the appropriation, and were absolutely necessary for the proper performance of the duties of the office, a deficiency was created during the first year of its organization and has crept into the subsequent years until the deficiency now amounts to $1130.17.

On the 18th December 1857 a letter was addressed from this office to the Hon. M. S. Otero, Delegate to Congress from this Territory, asking that two or three thousand dollars be appropriated in the deficiency bill for defraying the expenses of the office, which were not covered by the regular appropriation of $3.000. This application was referred by Mr. Otero to Mr. Hendricks, then Commissioner of the General Land Office, and in reply the Commissioner states, on the 16th March 1858, that with a view to cover these expenses incurred by the Surveyor General, over and above the appropriation of March 3d 1857. I have caused to be inserted in the surveying estimates for New Mexico for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1859, "the following item"

"6. For surveying such of the private Land claims "in New Mexico, as shall have been confirmed by "Congress including expenses incurred "by the "Surveyor General in adjudicating the same 15.000 "Dollars.

"A part of the sum of $15.000 it is believed "can be applied to the payment of the expenses for "which "no provision has been made by former appro-"priations, and will cover the same, and therefore it "will not be necessary to introduce in the Deficiency "bill exported at the present Congress, any item providing

"for these expenses."

Mr. Otto and myself were present last winter, when Mr. Hendricks iterated what is contained in the paragraphs above quoted, and stated that any deficiency in the appropriation for the contingent expenses of this office should be covered by, and paid from the appropriation of $15.000. above mentioned.

With all this positive authority before me I did not hesitate to make the request contained in my letter of July 8th, transmitting my accounts, not doubting for a moment, that my request would be complied with, as it had already been agreed upon, instead of which my accounts have all been returned to me, together with the original letter of transmission with instructions to construct them anew as directed.

Notwithstanding the charge of extravagance and lavishness in the expenditures of the office, made against me, I venture the assertion that my annual report with its accompanying documents is larger than those of the Surveyor Generals Offices of Wisconsin and Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska, Illinois and Missouri, Minnesota, Louisiana, Florida, Utah and Oregon, all in the aggregate and to sustain this assertion I respectfully request that you would examine the report mentioned and its accompanying papers, transmitted from this office in September last.

In conclusion, I beg to transmit my accounts for the 1st & 2d Quarters 1859 made anew according to the instructions of the acting Commissioner also the accounts disallowed, and the original letter of July 8th transmitting them, with the request that you will fully investigate the matter, and if the request made in the original letter of transmission is found to be just, that you will cause a draft for the deficiency of $130.17 therein mentioned, to be paid from the fund of 10.000 Dollars to be transmitted to S. J. Spiegelberg Esq. at Sligman & Stettheimers Wall St. New York.

Very Respectfully
Your obdt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surv. Genl. Ore.

Hon. Sam'l A. Smith Esq.
Comm'r Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
December 15th 1859.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of November 12th ult. requesting to be informed in regard to the necessity of making of the work of Messrs Kelley & Hagar, by Mr. Wilber, I have to state that the intention of your circular of April 18th ult. in regard to the change in the mode of making payments for the examination &c. was misconstrued by this office, and my reason for sending Mr. Wilber to make the inspection of the surveys, was in consequence of that paragraph of the circular referred to, which states that "the law hereto alluded to provided for occasional examinations of the surveys while in progress in the field," to test the fidelity of the execution of the work &c. and not because I had either any data to go upon, or doubted in the slightest degree that Messrs Kelley and Hagar would fully comply with law and instructions in the execution of their contract. On the contrary I had the fullest confidence in their honesty and integrity as well as their ability to fulfill their contracts to the fullest extent of what was required of them.

The Court for the investigation of private Land Claims being in session at the time it was impossible for me to leave my official duties here and the clerks in the office being all engaged in preparing my annual report their services could not be dispensed with, and I was therefore compelled to engage Mr. Wilber's services.

Owing to the high prices of provisions &c. in this Territory his examination cannot be made without incurring a heavy expense, and as Mr. Wilber performed the service required of him in good faith, I respectfully suggest that he be paid the amount laid out by him for his expenses, leaving the question of his compensation entirely to your liberality & sense of justice.

I make the same suggestion in regard to Mr. Dallis who examined the work of Messrs. Clements & Archer under their contract of July 13th.

ably, the account for which has not yet been transmitted to your office for settlement.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obdt. Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General.

Hon. Saml. A Smith Esq.
Commr. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
December 17th 1859.

Sir:

In the letter from your office transmitting information of the confirmation by Congress of certain Pueblo Grants &c. &c. giving instructions in regard to making the plats &c. reference is therein made to a diagram enclosed with those instructions showing how the plats are to be constructed.

Again in your letter of September 26th objecting to Mr. Gabrielsons work I am instructed to make no further returns of the Pueblo surveys until your reply to my letter of August 22d is received.

It is strange that neither the diagram mentioned in your first letter or your reply to mine of August 22d have never reached me although three months seem to have elapsed since the date of your last letter on the subject.

The work has all been completed and is now lying in the office waiting for the plats or sanction from your office to prepare the plats for transmission. In the meantime the Deputy Surveyors are subjected to serious inconvenience on account of the delay in the transmission of their accounts.

I therefore respectfully request that the diagram and samples mentioned in your letters be transmitted at your earliest con-

venience.

Very Respectfully,
Your obdt Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Hon Saml A Smith Esq
Commr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
December 15th 1859.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the following Township Platts viz:

Township No. 9 North Ranges No. 8. 9. & 10 East
Township " 10 " " " 8. 9. & 10 "
Township " 11 " " " 8. 9. & 10 "
Township " 12 " " " 9 East
Township " 14 " " " 25 & 26 East
Fractional Township " 15 " " " 24 East
Township " 15 " " " 25 & 26 East of the Principal Meridian in New Mexico.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servt
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Wm A. Davidson Esq.
Register of the Land Office
Tucson.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 2d. 1860.

Sir

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the accounts of the Clerks in my office for the quarter ending December 31. 1859.

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt Servant
Wm Pelham.
Surveyor General

Hon S. A. Smith Esq.
Commissioner Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico.
January 7th 1860

Sir.

In reply to your letter of December 1st ult approving of the action had upon the contract of Jno W Garretson D.S I have to state that the letter from your Office, disapproving of the meanders of the Rio Grande whenever it ran through any of the Pueblos, was not received until the contract was made with Mr Clements and that upon the receipt of that letter it was immediately transmitted to Mr Clements

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Hon S. A. Smith
Commr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico.
January 7th 1860

Sir.

Herewith I have the honor to transmit my account for Office Rent Fuel Stationary &c. for the Six months commencing July 1st ending December 31st 1859.

To the balance due the Surveyor General for the period ending June 30th 1859 has been submitted for the final action of your office, and the result of that action has not been received at this Office it has not been included in the account herewith transmitted.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Survey General.

Hon S. A. Smith
Commr of the General Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 7th 1860.

Sir.

Herewith I have the honor to enclose the accounts of John W. Garretson Esq Dep Sur for the survey of the Indian Pueblos of Tesuque Pojoaque, Nambe; San Ildefonso & Santa Clara made according to your instructions

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Hon Saml. A. Smith
Commr of the Genl Land Office.
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 7th 1860.

Sir.

At the request of J R Bartlett Esq of Providence Rhode Island, I enclose you a copy of the original document of the Sopori Estate which please deliver to Col W B. Sayles when he arrives at your place.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

James H McGoffin Esq.
El Paso.
Texas.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
December 17th 1859.

Sir.

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the account of J. J. Battaile Esq. Deputy Surveyor for the examination of the work executed by Messrs Clements & Archer under their contract dated July 13. 1859.

I respectfully recommend that the expenses incurred by Mr. Battaile be refunded to him, leaving the question of his compensation to the liberality of the commissioner of the General Land Office.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Saml. A. Smith Esq.
Commr. Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 21st 1860.

Sir

Messrs Clemens & Archer have been instructed to prepare a correct description of all the Townships that have been surveyed by them, the present season. Messrs Kelley & Hagan have left the Territory and one of them (Mr. Kelley) is probably now in Washington City.

I have made a reconnoissance of the Canadian Fork of the Arkansas or Red River, where it passes through the Townships that have been surveyed, and although rather narrow in places it is as well adapted to navigation in small boats as many rivers in the Western portion of the United States, and from my own observations, I believe its width and depth authorize its being meandered, and so soon as a population is settled in that vicinity, with the removal of a few obstructions the river, in my opinion, will be sufficiently navigable to supply all the demands made upon it, and therefore I caused it to be meandered.

In regard to the disposal of the moneys of the Deputy Surveyors you are doubtless aware that no authority is given to this office to control the manner of payment of their accounts. The Commissioner has seen proper to take the payment of all such accounts in his own hands, therefore the matter rests entirely between the Deputies and the General Land office, and as they have not been notified that it is necessary for their directions to be stated on the account itself it has not been done. Again, so many changes have been made and so many difficulties are thrown in the way of obtaining their money, that it is with difficulty they can dispose of their drafts in prospect, and often when his accounts are sent from here the Deputy does not know how to dispose of the amount due him. It also, often occurs that when the accounts are made out and transmitted, the Deputy is not in the city, and not knowing that it is necessary for his directions to be stated on the account or be given through this Office officially he gives us no information as to the manner he wishes his funds disposed of.

I have always endeavoured to carry out the instructions given to me as faithfully as possible but in this case so many conflicting orders are given and so many changes are made that I am left entirely in the dark how to act and have adopted the plan which I thought would meet with your approval. I now respectfully request that such specific rules be sent to this office in regard to the disposal of the amounts due to the Deputy Surveyors and Clerks as will enable me to comply with them without receiving the repeated and unmerited censures of the Department.

As before stated, Messrs Kelley & Hagar have left the Territory and it will be impossible for this Office to comply with your instructions in regard to the statement of the disposal of the amount of their account.

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Hon. Saml. A. Smith
Commr. of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 27th 1860.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 7th ult. I have to state that no instructions have been furnished to this office in regard to the filing of claims to mines within this Territory and it will therefore be impossible for me to comply with your request at the present time

Very Respectfully
Your obdt Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

John M. Pinkston Esq.
Gila City
N. M.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 28 1860.

Sir:

Several persons who have availed themselves of the benefits of the Donation law extended over this Territory have completed the four years settlement and cultivation required of them but as the land has not been surveyed they cannot designate their claims by legal subdivisions. One of the above claimants desires to dispose of his claim and has applied to this office for advise how to act in the matter, but as the law makes no provision for a case of this nature. I respectfully ask that such instructions may be

issued from your office for the government of this and other cases of a similar nature.

Very Respectfully
Your obdt servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General

Hon. Saml. A. Smith
Commr. of the Genl. Land office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 28 1860.

Sir.

Enclosed I have the honor to transmit account of R. E. Clements Deputy Surveyor for the survey of the Indian Pueblos of Santo Domingo, San Felipe, and Sandia, and the Town of Chilili, amounting in the aggregate to the sum of $2305.05 exclusive of the meanders.

I also transmit copies of the field notes and sketch maps of the surveys above mentioned to facilitate the settlement of the accounts. Having waited up to this time in vain, for the samples which were to have been sent from the Department by which the plats were to be constructed, it was doing an injustice to the Deputy, to keep his work delayed for a longer period, thereby depriving him of the use of the amount due him. So soon as the samples are received the plats will be made in accordance therewith and transmitted without delay.

In the meantime however I respectfully request that his accounts be settled by the certified sketch maps herewith accompanying.

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt. Servant.
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Hon. Saml. A. Smith
Commr. of the Genl. Land office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
February 7th 1860.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the following Township Plats viz:

Township No. 13 North Range No. 22. 23 & 33 East
Township " 14 " " " 30. 31. & 32 East
Fracl Township " 14 " " " 23 East
Township " 15 " " " 27. & 32 East of the Principal Meridian in New Mexico.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

William A. Davidson Esqr.
Register of the Land Office
Present.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
February 10, 1860

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the descriptions of the Townships subdivided by Messrs Clements & Archer under their contracts of May 31st & July 13th 1859 required by your letter of December 19th ult.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Hon Saml A Smith
Commr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
February 12 1860

Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find bills of Seligman

and Clerks for		$ 35.00
L. J. Rose	"	43.50
Christian Velten	"	15.50
amounting to,	"	$ 94.00

These bills were created for furniture purchased for the Court Room, under the verbal instructions of the late Commissioner, and the articles purchased were necessary, in addition to the furniture purchased when this Office was established for the proper transaction of business. The bill of C. Velten was for repairs put on a sofa purchased in 1855, and which had become worn out by constant service and which would have been useless had not the repairs been made. The furniture above stated is all that has been purchased up to the present time, and could not well have been dispensed with. In furniture no expenditure of the kind will be made without previously consulting your office as instructed.

As the above accounts have all been paid. I request that a draft in my favor be sent to me to cover the total amount of the bills rendered.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Hon. Saml. A. Smith
Commr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
February 17th 1860.

Sir

Several claims have been presented to this Office, for lands situated in the Mesilla Valley and purporting to have been granted by a Commissioner appointed by the Government of Mexico for that purpose. As the jurisdiction of that government over the land so granted, was considered doubtful until the matter was adjusted by the Gadsden Treaty, I desire to know the views of the Department in regard to the jurisdiction of the Mexican Government over the land held in dispute, and also to receive such instructions as the Department

may deem proper to issue in regard to the matter, before proceeding any farther in the investigation of such cases.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Hon. Saml. A. Smith
Commr. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City

Despacho del Agrimensor General
Santa Fé Nuevo Mexico,
a 17 de Febrero de 1860.

Señor.

Es contrario á las reglas de este despacho el entregar documentos originales que han sido depositados aquí. Este despacho ha sido establecido por el gobierno para averiguar y relacionar las miras del Agrimensor General sobre la validez ó invalidez de las mercedes que originaron antes del traspaso del Gobierno Mexicano al gobierno de los Estados Unidos, y no, como muchos piensan, solamente para registrar documentos y devolverlos originales. Las instrucciones del Despacho General de Terrenos, declara espresamente que se han de presentar aquí los documentos originales, y por supuesto, una vez de que sean depositados, no pueden salir otra vez. Copias certificadas se hacen siempre que las partes las pidan.

Al presentar reclamos para que sean averiguados ante la Corte del Agrimensor General, es necesario que acompañe los documentos una peticion por escrito "manifestando el nombre del reclamante actual, el nombre del reclamante original, la naturaleza del reclamo, si es completo, ó incompleto, su fecha, de que autoridad fue derivado el titulo original, con referencia á las pruebas de la facultad y autoridad con que haya obrado el oficial que concedió el titulo, la cantidad que se reclama, la localidad, aviso y estencion de reclamos que chocan, si hubiese, con referencia á la evidencia escrita y las declaraciones en que se apoyan, para establecer el reclamo, y para mostrar el traspaso de derecho, del agraviado original al reclamante actual."

"Tambien le requerirá V. á todo reclamante un mapa autentico, de la agrimensura del terreno, si se ha medido, ó otras evidencias, que muestren la localidad escata y la estencion del terreno que se reclama."

Como los documentos que ha presentado Vd no cumple con los requisitos arriba citados, le son devueltos para que disponga Vd. de ellos de la manera que crea conveniente.

Soy de Vd.
Obediente Servidor
David V. Whiting
Escribano Periciphal
por orden del Agrimensor General.

Señor Jacobo Amberg
Presente.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
March 17th 1860.

Sir.

Mr Garretsons work has been lying in this office for about six months waiting for the samples by which to make out the necessary plats, and which you stated accompanied your letter of April 23d ult, but which were not transmitted as inferred by your letter of September 26th, ult directing this office to transmit no more pueblo Surveys until an answer was received to my letter of September 22 ult. You will perceive that there is a difference of nearly five months between the dates of the above two letters. Those samples have not reached here yet, although your letter of a subsequent date states that the samples would be made the subject of another communication. That communication has not reached here either, and as all the indications show, admitting even, that it was your intention to send them, that you have failed to do so up to this time. I deem it proper to retain Mr Garretsons accounts no longer, and they are herewith transmitted. embracing the Indian Pueblos of.

Picuris — San Juan.
Taos. — Tecos
Cochiti — Isleta
Jemez — and — Zia
and the town sites of
Tecolote — Belen.
& Tome.

amounting in all to the sum of $7,141.21. exclusive of the meanders of the Rio Grande and Chama River, where they pass through the above grants.

Accompanying the accounts are copies of the Field Notes, and sketch maps by which the accounts can be settled, The proper plats will be transmitted when the samples are received according to which they are to be constructed.

Your letter of February 6th informing this office of the payments of Mr Garretsons.

accounts states that the last accounts were not available for the purposes desired, because of the failure to state in each account the name of the party to which the Pueblo was confirmed.

If you will refer to the Act of Congress of December 22d 1858, confirming the Pueblo Grants, and to which you have access, as well as to the papers composing those grants which have been transmitted in triplicate, from this office, you will perceive that the accounts are made out to correspond exactly with the grants and the Confirmatory Act, This Office has no right to state a party where none is mentioned in the grant or the Act, Consequently your charge of omission on the part of this Office is entirely uncalled for, and unjust.

You also charge this Office with being the sole cause of all the delay in the settlement of the accounts of Deputy Surveyors for work done by them, but the Deputy Surveyors in my district, who are men of discernment and sense know full well where the fault lies, notwithstanding this Office is charged with derelections of duty of which it is not guilty

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Hon Saml A Smith
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office.
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
March 24th 1860.

Sir:

In the year 1855 Hugh Stephenson Esq. through his Attorney J. S. Watts, filed a pre-emption claim in this office for the land covered by his furnaces and machinery for extracting

ore, but as the instructions to this Office deprived persons holding claims to land in this Territory derived from the former governments of the Country, from the privileges of either donations or preemptions the claim was withdrawn.

The exterior Township boundary lines only have been run in the vicinity of Fort Fillmore, and until the subdivision lines are run no diagram could be prepared in this office that would give you any satisfaction

Very Respectfully
Your obdt. servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor Genl

Bvt Maj. J. T. Sprague
U. S. A.
Fort Fillmore
N. Mo.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
March 31 1860

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit the accounts of the Translator and Clerks in this office for the quarter ending this day

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt Servant.
Wm Pelham
Surv. Genl

Jos Wilson Esq.
Commr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe: New Mexico
April 3d 1860.

Sir

Herewith I have the honor to transmit my account for Rent of Office, Fuel, Stationary &c for the quarter ending March 31st 1860. showing a balance due the United States of $55.25

As my request in regard to the payment of the deficiency for the last year, was not complied with, I have included the amount due $1130.17, as shown by my account for the last quarter of 1858-59. in my account for the quarter ending March 31st, herewith transmitted instead of the one for the quarter ending Dec 31st 1859., as that account had been made up before the receipt of your letter authorizing vouchers. 4 & 5 to be included in my account for that quarter.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Joseph S. Wilson Esq
Comm'r of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
DC

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe: New Mexico
April 3d 1860

Sir.

In reply to your letter of February 6th ult. I have to state that the amounts paid by me to J. Doyle, as shown in Voucher No 1. of my accounts rendered for the six months ending December 31. 1859. for charges paid to M. H. Chick & Co., and freight on 1430 lbs from Kansas to Santa Fe, was for the Stationary &c. purchased by me in Philadelphia, during the winter of 1858-59. as contained in the bills of W. H. Maurice Esq, there for $530. paid by you from the appropriation for the

Survey of the Private Land Claims &c and the other for $769.25 charged in my accounts for the 1st & 2nd Quarters 1859. being vouchers No 5. recently allowed by you and passed to my credit as per your letter of Feb 6. From the Bills above mentioned which are on file in your Office you will readily perceive what the freight was for which the amount charged was paid to Mr Doyle.

The amount paid to C. W. Kitchen was for freight on blank books in which to record the Field notes filed in the Office by Dep Surveyors, and which were ordered when the other Stationery was purchased but which could not be gotten ready in time to ship with the other goods, and were brought out by Mr Kitchen in the fall. The bill for these books has been mislaid or lost, in its transmission by mail and duplicate ones are on the way, and will be forwarded to you when received.

The vouchers transmitted to your Office for payment made to messrs Doyle & Kitchen were made out and signed by the parties themselves as you will perceive by an examination of them. and as both are gentlemen of wealth and respectability they would scorn to affix their names to receipts for money which they did not receive, as is vaguely intimated in your letter

Even were I disposed to comply with your very unusual and suspicious requirement as contained in the closing paragraph of your letter, it would be impossible for me to do so at the present time, as both of the gentlemen to whom the freight was paid are absent from the Territory and I am not positively informed of their whereabouts.

I trust that the above explanations will be satisfactory and the amounts paid to Messrs Doyle & Kitchen will be passed to my credit as charged in my accounts for December 1859.

I am Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant.

Jos. S. Wilson Esq
Comm'r Gen'l Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Wm Pelham.
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
April 28th 1860.

Sir:

On the 21st April 1856, Francisco Lobato filed his application in this Office for a donation of one hundred and sixty acres of land, under the law of 1854, which provides that the land shall be donated, upon the condition of four years successive cultivation and occupation. In the case submitted the four years terminated on the 10th day of the present month, and the claimant is ready to complete his application. The land claimed has not been surveyed, and is located in a mountainous region where there is very little land that can be cultivated. As there are many more claims of the same nature in a like condition instructions are respectfully requested in the premises.

A Correction line runs a few miles below the claim of Lobato from which a line can be run, and the land claimed as well as such others lands in the vicinity susceptible of cultivation can be surveyed without much trouble.

If the survey of such claims is ordered, what amount is to be paid to the Deputy Surveyor per mile, when they they are detached from the public surveys?

Very Respectfully
Your obt. Servant

Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Joseph S. Wilson Esq
Comm'r of the Gen'l Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
April 28th 1860

Sir:

Enclosed I have the honor to transmit two copies of my "Return of Property" for property purchased, received, used and remaining on hand in my office from January 1. 1859, to March 31st 1860, one copy of which is intended for transmission to the Treasury Department, and the other for your inspection and approval.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obdt Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Joseph S. Wilson Esq
Commr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
May 10th 1860.

Sir:

Pursuant to the instructions contained in your communication of April 9th ult. I herewith have the honor to enclose the account of John W. Garretson Esq. Deputy Surveyor for the meanders of the Rio Grande del Norte running through certain Pueblos and Town sites therein mentioned, amounting to the sum of $1615.88.

Enclosed herewith you will also please find the account of R. E. Clements, Dep. Sur. for meandering the Rio Grande through the Indian Pueblos of San Felipe and Santo Domingo, amounting to the sum of $485.62, and to which I presume the instructions above referred to, are equally applicable.

I have the honor to be
Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Joseph S. Wilson Esq.
Commissioner of the General Land office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
May 12th 1860.

Sir:

The error mentioned in your communication of March 29th, as having occurred in the account of C Velten, was a clerical one only, caused by substituting 50c in lieu of 25c in the price of the stuff, the amount carried out ($7.50) being the proper one. In this case no injury resulted either to the government or to any particular individual by the commission of the error, but I am sorry to say such has not been the case with an error comitted by the Department in the disposal of the draft for my salary for the quarter ending March 31st ult.

The Department has required that the manner in which the amount of any account is desired to be disposed of, shall be stated on the face of the account itself. In the case in point I requested in legible characters and in plain English, that a draft for the amount of my salary for the quarter ending March 31st 1860 on the Assistant Treasurer of New York, should be sent to me at this place, instead of doing which, it has been sent to the care of S. J. Spiegelberg at New York, as I have been notified by the firm at this place of which he is a member.

I will not say that the carelessness in complying with my request is usual, or that it was intentional, on the part of your office, but I am constrained to state, that an injury has been done to me, as it was promised as a medium of exchange, to a merchant of this City, upon its arrival here, which promise I am unable to fulfil owing to the neglect of the Department in complying with my clear written request, made according to instructions, and which neglect has caused a party to become the sufferer without any just cause. We are all liable to err, but some errors are more excusable than others, and I leave you to decide which one of the two errors in question is the most excusable.

As the matter has already been settled with Mr. Spiegelberg I respectfully request that no steps be taken to revoke the decision of the Department, but that the matter be allowed to remain as it now stands.

I have the honor to be Very Respectfully
Your obdt Servant.
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Joseph S. Wilson Esq.
Commr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
May 14, 1868.

Sir.—

In reply to your letter of April 6th I have to inform you that the law establishing this Office grants to every white male citizen of the United States or to any person who has declared his intention to become a citizen and who shall remove to and settle in this Territory prior to January 1, 1858, there shall be granted a donation of 160 acres of land upon four years' actual settlement and cultivation.

If you desire to become a settler on the public lands within this Territory where no surveys have been made, as is the case at the point you mention, you can go upon the land and cultivate it for the time required by law, after which, when the lands are surveyed so that you can designate the particular land you are entitled to according to the legal subdivisions, you will then be entitled to a patent from the Government for the amount of one hundred and sixty acres, having to pay only the necessary charges for the patent, if there should be any—which is not likely to be the case.

Should you desire to preempt the land so as to give you the first right to purchase when the lands are subject to entry, you must make your application to the Register of the Landoffice at this place, who will give you such instructions as you may require in the premises.

Again, you can go upon the land and occupy it until it is surveyed and made subject to entry, when you can locate a military land warrant upon it, or you can purchase it at public sale when they are offered by the President.

You are to understand distinctly, however, that should any Spanish or Mexican grant cover the land you take, you will forfeit and lose all your, right, title, interest or claim over the land or the improvements you may place upon it.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,
Wm. Pelham,
Surveyor General.

Mr. Charles Wolfert,
Co. "B" 8th Infantry,
Fort Bliss,
Texas.

Despacho del Agrimensor General.
Santa Fé, Nuevo Mexico.
A 26 de Mayo de 1866.

Señor.—

Los documentos que ha depositado V. en este Despacho— el uno una hijuela ó certificado hecho por Vicente Rivera, Juez de Paz, concediendole á Geronimo Gonzales cierto terreno situado en la junta del Rio de Pecos y el de Las Gallinas, y el otro una orden del Juez de Paz de Anton Chico, para que se presenten á eligir un Mayordomo, etc.— han sido examinados con el mayor cuidado, y tengo el honor de informar á V. que hasta esta fecha no se ha protocolado en este Despacho, ni se ha averiguado un reclamo semejante al suyo. Las leyes de colonizacion dan la facultad á los Gobernadores y Asambleas departamentales de repartir los terrenos baldios de la Republica Mejicana. Esta autoridad fue ejercida tambien por los Gefes Politicos en la ausencia del Gobernador y las Asambleas Departamentales, pero las leyes no revestian á los Alcaldes ó Jueces de Paz con autoridad para ejercer sus funciones conferidas á las autoridades superiores. Ellas solamente ejercian una autoridad ejecutiva ó subordinada, y al hacerse la merced á algun individuo segun los trámites legales de la ley y aprobada por el Gobernador ó el Gefe Politico, entonces ocurria el agraciado al Juez de Paz ó Alcalde mas cercano al terreno mercenado para que se le diera la posesion legal ó judicial, segun se llamaba en los dias del Gobierno anterior. El Alcalde ó Juez de Paz tenia tambien la facultad de repartir y dar hijuelas para los terrenos concedidos segun la autoridad arriba citada á las comunidades ó plazas, siendo él el representante ó la autoridad competente de esa comunidad ó plaza. Estas eran las unicas facultades que hasta la fecha se ha manifestado que tenian los Jueces de Paz bajo la ley de colonizacion ó cualquiera otra ley, costumbre ó decreto de los Gobiernos que reginan anteriormente en el Paiz. Los documentos que presenta Vd. no se refieren á ni contienen los requisitos que se cree que son necesarios para darle validacion ó sustancia á su reclamo, y es necesario que sean presentados ó que pruebe V. distintamente y con claridad que existia esa facultad que declara el Juez de Paz que le es concedida por las leyes de colonizacion. Si no puede Vd. presentarlos entonces los documentos protocolados son de ninguna utilidad en este Despacho, y se tendran sujetos á sus ordenes.

También falta el traspaso del agraciado original, Geronimo Gonzalez, á V., el reclamante actual.

Por lo que toca á la posesion del terreno tomado por otras personas tengo que informar á V. que las atribuciones de este Despacho son solamente el averiguar reclamos entre el Gobierno é individuos — es decir, averiguar los reclamos que se presenten, y determinar si el terreno que se reclama fué concedido bajo las formalidades de la ley, si se han cumplido las condiciones si habieren, etc.; en fin, si el terreno es del Gobierno ó es de el reclamante. Llegado á este punto cesan las atribuciones de este Despacho hasta que tome el Congreso accion sobre la materia. Cuando dos individuos reclaman el mismo sitio ó terreno es necesario ocurrir á las cortes ó tribunales judiciales para que se decida quien es el dueño legitimo de la propiedad que se disputa. Habiendose concedido estas atribuciones á ese ramo del Gobierno seria una usurpacion de poder si este Despacho se pusiera á decidir esas cuestiones.

Soy de V.

Muy Obediente Servidor,

G. W. S. M.,

Wm. Pelham

(Agrimensor General).

Señor José Ulibarri,
Las Vegas, N.M.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
May 28, 1860.

Sir.—

In reply to your letter of the 12th instant I have to inform you that the law of August, 1854., grants to every free white male citizen of the United States or to any person declaring his intention to become a citizen, a donation of one hundred and sixty acres of public land, upon actual settlement and cultivation for four successive years. The further condition is required that the donee shall have removed to and settled in the Territory prior to January 1, 1858. Upon the completion of the occupancy

the donee is entitled to a patent for the land so claimed, provided it is surveyed so as to designate it according to legal subdivision.

The land can also be preëmpted by filing application with the Register of the Landoffice, so as to secure the purchase when surveyed and made subject to entry, or you can locate a military bounty warrant on the land when made subject to entry, by proclamation of the President.

The above three modes of selection are open to you, from which you can choose the most convenient.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,
Wm Pelham,
Surveyor General.

D. W. Mapie, Esq.,
La Mesilla,
N.M.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
May 23, 1860.

Sir:

In answer to your communication of the 8th instant informing this Office of your intention to preempt one hundred and sixty acres of public land on the western side of the Santa Rita mountain, I have to inform you that this Office only receives applications for donations of land under the law of August, 1854, all matters appertaining to the preemption of public land within this Territory belongs exclusively to the Office of the Register of the Landoffice and Receiver of Public Money for this District, both of which offices are located at this place, and to which you are referred for any information you may desire in the premises.

Very respectfully
Your obedient Servant,
William Pelham,
Surveyor General.

D. Morehouse, Esq.,
Tubac,
New Mexico

Surveyor Generals' Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
May 22nd, 1860.

Sir:—

In answer to your communication of the 5th instant informing this Office of your intention to preëmpt one hundred and sixty acres of land on the western side of the Santa Rita Mountain, I have to inform you that this Office only receives applications for donations of land within this Territory under the law of August, 1854. All matters appertaining to the preëmption of public land within this Territory belongs exclusively to the Officer of the Register of the Land office and the Receiver of Public Moneys for this District— both of which offices are located at this place, and to which you are referred for any information you may desire in the premises.

Very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
Wm Pelham,
Surveyor General.

John A. Ridenour, Esq.,
Tubac,
New Mexico.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
May 29th 1860.

Sir:

Some time will necessarily elapse before this Office can comply with that portion of your communication of the 1st inst. requiring corrected transcripts of the field notes of the survey of the Pueblo grants and Town sites, that have been embodied in a single volume owing to the absence of Mr. Jackson, the Deputy Surveyor, who executed the surveys from the Territory. So soon as the proper oaths & certificates can be procured from himself and his assistants, the transcripts will be made and transmitted without delay.

Very Respectfully
Your obdt. Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General.

Joseph S. Wilson Esqr.
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
June 9th 1860.

Sir:

I respectfully request that the sum of One thousand five hundred ($1500) Dollars of the amount which may be appropriated by congress for the rent of Office, Fuel &c. for this Office, for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1861 be transmitted in a draft on the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York to the care of S. J. Spiegelberg Esq. at Seligman & Stettheimer Veazy St N.Y.

In this connection allow me to assure you that no portion of the above amount will be expended except for such articles as may be absolutely required by the exigencies of the public service and that your instructions in regard to economy will be rigidly complied with.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General.

Joseph S. Wilson Esq.
Commr. of the Genl. Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
June 30th 1860.

Sir:

Herewith enclosed I have the honor to enclose the accounts of the Clerks in this Office for their respective salaries, for Quarter ending this day, which is also the end of the fiscal year 1859 & 1860.

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt Servant
Wm. Pelham
Surveyor General

Joseph S. Wilson Esq.
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 14th 1860.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to transmit my account for Rent of Office, Fuel, &c, for the 2d Quarter ending June 30. 1860.

The candles charged in Vouchers Nos. 3 & 4 were purchased deemed to be absolutely essential to the good of the public service. During the fall and winter months the Clerks in the Office are sometimes occupied until a late hour in the night when artificial light is absolutely required

As the Treasury Department deemed proper to place the funds appropriated by Congress for the construction of vaults for the preservation of the records of this Office in the hands of the Superintendent of Public Buildings for this Territory, who constructed them in such a manner as to render the appropriation useless and entirely thwart the action of Congress in the matter, it became necessary, for the safe keeping of the land titles of the Country entrusted to my care to employ a watchman, and keep a dog upon the premises, and it is necessary that this watchman shall be provided with lights for use at night. This explanation I trust will be sufficient to enable you to approve the purchases made

As this is the last account of that nature that I shall probably transmit to you as Surveyor General of New Mexico, I respectfully request that it may be adjusted at your earliest convinience, and that the amount due me, as therein stated be paid from the appropriation for the survey of the private land claims which has been made at the session of Congress which has just terminated, or if not from this, from any other appropriation which may be available for the object, and that the same be transmitted to me to the care of J. Staab Esq. of this city.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Pelham
Surveyor General

Joseph S. Wilson Esq
Commr of the Genl Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé: New Mexico
August 26th 1860

Hon S. S. Wilson
Comr Genl Land Office.

Sir.

I arrived in this City yesterday with the last mail, but at too late an hour to Execute my bond, to-day being Sunday. By the next mail I will forward to your office my bond, with such other communications as may be requisite.

I have seen the late Surveyor General Wm Pelham, and he will turn over to me, in the morning, the Office, and its appurtenances.

I have the honor to be
Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
A P Wilson
Sur. General

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé: New Mexico
Augt 29th 1860.

C. Vigil Esq.

Dear Sir.

I regret to inform you that the reduction in the Clerks salaries renders it incumbent upon me to reduce the clerical force in my Office, and I therefore notify you that your services in this Office will cease from this date.

Your account for pay up to date, will be made out and sent to Washington for settlement by next mail.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
A P Wilson
Sur. Genl.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe. New Mexico
Augt 29th 1861

John. H. Mink Esq.
Dear Sir.

I regret to inform you that the reduction in the Clerks Salaries renders it incumbent upon me to reduce the Clerical force in my Office, and I therefore notify you that your services in this office will cease from this date

Your account for pay up to date will be made out and sent to Washington for settlement by next mail

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
A P Wilbar
Sur. Genl.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe. New Mexico
Augt 29th 1861

Hon Jos. S. Wilson
Comr Genl Land Office.
Sir.

Enclosed please find my Bond & Oath duly executed according to instructions.

I have the honor to remain
Your Obt Servant
A P Wilbar
Sur. Genl

Surveyor Genl's Office
Santa Fe: New Mexico
Aug 29th 1860.

Hon Jos. G. Wilson
Commr Genl Land Office
Sir.

Today David V. Whiting Esq tendered me his resignation as Translator in my office which has been accepted – His account will be forwarded for his pay up to this date inclusive

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
A P Wilbar
Sur. Genl

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe. New Mexico
Aug 30th 1860.

Hon Joseph G Wilson
Commr Genl Land Office.
Sir.

I respectfully request that the amount of my salary for the fractional quarter commencing on the 29th inst, and ending on the 30th September proximo be forwarded to me at this City – I would also ask you the favor having been to great expence returning to Santa Fé to let me draw my pay for the succeeding quarter ending the 30th December of this year.

Should you comply with my request you will please forward the amounts to me at your earliest convenience.

Very Respectfully.
Your Obt Servant.

Surveyor general.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe: New Mexico
Augt 31st 1860

Hon Jno S. Wilson
Com^r Genl Land Office.

Sir.

As this time is approaching the close of the first quarter of the present fiscal year, and the office rent, and some other contingent expenses will be incurred I would very respectfully request that you will transmit one half of the contingent fund for Office rent &c to me at this place – The amount 1250 Dollars.

I hope this request may meet your approbation and receive your early attention

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
A P Wilbar
Sur Genl

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe: New Mexico
August 30th 1860

Hon. Joseph G. Wilson
Com^r Genl Land Office.

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication dated July 26th inst. addressed to the Surveyor General of New Mexico, relative to the Compensation of the Surveyor General, translator and Clerks, together with the amounts designated for certain surveys – I am also in receipt of your letter of July 28th inst relative to certain Pueblo surveys, which instructions will be carried out according to the rule prescribed by your Office

I am Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A P Wilbar
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe. N. Mx.
September 1st 1860

Hon Jos. S. Wilson
Comr Genl Land Office

Sir.

I have the honor to transmit to your Office the approved Accounts of John H. Mink & Jose C. Vigil, late Clerks in my office, for settlement. These accounts are for the fractional quarter ending 31st ultimo

I am Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A P Milton
Sur. Genl
N. M.

Surveyor Generals Office.
Santa Fe, New Mexico.
Sept 1st 1860.

Hon Joseph S. Wilson
Comr Genl Land Office.

Sir.

I have just regulated the Clerks Salaries for my Office for the present fiscal year and have been obliged to reduce the Clerical force two in number in consequence of the reduction of the amount for their pay for this year.— The following is the arrangement which I have made after due consideration.

Chief Clerk Robt. A. Mathews at the rate of $2000 per annum appointed 29th day of August 1860. $1179.34.

Calculator & Draughtsman, Thomas Means. commencing first of fiscal year. $1800.00

Two miscellaneous Clerks Philip Smith and Juan Blonnace Tapia, $1100, each — $2200.00

Amount paid to two discharged Clerks. J. H. Mink and Jose C. Vigil at the rate of $991.92. per annum each. $320.66

$6000.00

Total amount of appropriation $6000.00 –
The Clerical force after this reduction will be sufficient to perform the work of the Office the appropriations for surveys being so limited.
I would respectfully suggest from the commencement of the next fiscal quarter 1st October. that the salaries of the two Miscellaneous Clerks be increased to the rate of $1500 per annum. Should there be any contingent fund at your disposal, or as much more than $1100; as you may deem proper – The expense of living is so great here, that in my opinion $1100 is entirely inadequate pay for a well qualified Clerk.

I have not appointed a Translator to fill the place of Mr Whiting resigned, but will do so in a few days, so soon as I can select one well qualified to perform the duties of the position.

I am Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A P Wilbur
Surv Genl

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe. N. M.

H. M. Silus Esqr.
Sir.

Your letter dated Sonnata Valley. Aug 20th 1860. containing two announcements for silver mines was duly received – I have to say in reply that I have no authority to record the same in the Archives of my Office and further it is the opinion of this Office that no one has a right to lay claim to Silver or any other mineral lands belonging to the Public Domain –

There is no law of New Mexico as your announcements state, under which you as agent for any Company can hold said mines, if there was it would be of no effect, as you may readily perceive the law of Congress being paramount

I shall forward the two announce–

ments to the Commissioner of the General Land Office with my objections, reserving copies of the same in my office for reference.

My official obligations to the Government of the United States, as Surveyor General of the Public Lands of the District of New Mexico have dictated my course. You can confer with the Comr at Washington for the two papers now in question which will be sent on by this mail.

I am Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
D. Walker
Surveyor General of New Mexico

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe. N. Mexico
September 5th 1860

Messrs Pelham & Clements
Deputy Surveyors
Gentlemen.

Having contracted with you for the Survey of certain Land Claims in this District, mentioned in your Contract of this date, and also for the extension of 2nd Correction line South, and Township and section lines, near Fort Stanton, based upon said Correction line. – I will call your attention to the importance of a strict observance of the Manual of Instructions to regulate the field operations of Deputy Surveyors". – Especial care must be observed in running and marking the Boundaries of Land Claims, and connecting said Boundaries with all lines of Public Surveys which they may intersect and noting – the same in the field notes. At every mile from the Starting Point establish permanent corners of stone if it can be conveniently had; taking and marking Bearing Trees and other prominent natural objects, all of which be careful to describe in the Field notes of these surveys – I will call your attention to the instructions from the Commissioner Genl Land Office, in reference to the distance of the connecting lines – Five miles being

the maximum allowed – but should one claim connect with another, which has been already connected with the Public Surveys, you can proceed with the work – The Topography along the line must be observed and the description of the land given The punctuation of field notes and a correct professional language must be used throughout your field books – These surveys must be made with the Solar Compass, and the variation of the needle taken at every convenient point, also observe the latitude with the instrument, – In prosecuting the Public Surveys it is unnecessary for me to make any suggestions to Deputy Surveyors so well experienced as you are, –

In reference to the locality of the lines of Land Claims, it is the especial duty of Deputy Surveyors to ascertain from well informed persons residing on or near any Claim to be surveyed, such information as may facilitate the prosecution of your work – Such are the instructions from the Commissioner of the Genl Land Office in his letter dated 16th of September 1859.

Upon the completion of the survey of any of the Land Claims you are directed to forward to this office your field notes, being careful to place the same in safe hands, and so in reference to the Public Surveys, and each survey must be accompanied with a sketch plat of the same. – All meanders of Rivers and mountains will be dispensed with, except where such meanders occur at boundaries.

I am Respectfully,
Your Obt Servt
Alexander P. Wilkins
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
Sept 7. 1860.

Hon Joseph S. Wilson
Commissioner Genl. Land Office.

Sir,

I herewith enclose you the Contract & Bond of Mess. Pelham & Clements, for the survey of certain private land claims, and also the extension of the 2nd Correction line South-East in the vicinity of Fort Stanton -

In reference to the Claim of Hugh Stephenson, referred to in your letter of instructions of the 8th ulto - I have to state that said claim is one of the number embraced in the Contract with Mess. Pelham & Clements - As soon as said Claim is surveyed I will forward a Patent certificate for the same -

I am, Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
A. P. Wilber
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
Sept. 9. 1860

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson
Commissioner Genl. Land Office

Sir,

I have the honor to forward to your office the enclosed documents from H. T. Titus and one from Elias Burroot - These papers have been sent to me for the purpose of having the same recorded in this office - Having no authority to record any such claims in my Office and believing them to be against all law, I have concluded to forward them to you, and respectfully ask for such instructions with regard to this business, as the case may require -

In that portion of New Mexico, called Arazona many Mines are now being monopolized by Companies those belonging to the Public Domain, are not lands to be given up for speculation - I herewith enclose a copy of the letter which I wrote to H. T. Titus

As this matter of the occupation of the Public Lands in this District is becoming a serious one, and a monopoly injurious to the Government and to the people of New Mexico, I have deemed it proper to call your attention to the same.

Hoping that some action in this matter may be taken by your Office, and that some definite instructions may be given me, I have declined to comply with the request of the parties interested

I am, Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

(11)

Report

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe: New Mexico
September 15th 1860

Hon Joseph S Wilson
Commissioner General Land Office
Sir.

I have the honor to report that the survey of the Pueblos of Santo Domingo San Felipe and Sandia, and the Town of Chilili, have been surveyed under the last appropriation, and which have not been reported, as completed in the last annual Report of the late Surveyor General Wm Pelham

I find by examination that all of the surveys, contracted for under the appropriations for 1860, have been completed, the field notes, plats &c, sent on to your Office. On the 5th inst, I contracted with Deputy Surveyors Pelham & Clements for the survey of certain confirmed grants Viz: Town of Las Vegas, Pino or claim of Preston Beck Jr, Town of Anton Chico, Town of Mora, claims of C. H. Eaton, Alexander Valle, Donaciano Vigil and Hugh Stephenson and also I have contracted with the above named parties for the extension East, of the 2nd Correction line South into the settlements

of Fort Stanton, that the subdivisional work based upon said line shall embrace said settlements, For more particular performance of these surveys, I have given Messrs Pelham & Clements special instructions for their guidance.

The following private land Claims have been acted on by the late Surveyor General Mr Pelham since his last annual Report, Viz. Claim No 90 José Serafin Ramirez, and that of Gervacio Noland No 9 - Copies of these claims are herewith forwarded to Your Office.

The amount of work required to survey the private Land Claims already confirmed will be greatly augmented, and the anxiety of Claimants to have their lands seperated from the Public Domain is becoming very great Applications to this Office for the running and marking of the boundaries of Private Land Claims is of daily occurence, and I would most earnestly recommend that the appropriation for this branch of the surveys be increased so as to meet the exigencies of the Service - The appropriation for the survey of the Public Lands for this year is very limited and I would Respectfully call the attention of your Office to the necessity of a more liberal appropriation for this work.

In the Northern portion of this Territory much valuable land now lies unsurveyed, some of the same being occupied by permanent settlers, so it is in many other portions of the Territory - The appropriation for this branch of the Public Service, also should be increased so that the Public Surveys could be kept up with the Private Land Claims, thus enabling this Office to keep both branches of the Service going on, at the same time facilitating the connections between both, and rendering the surveys more complete, harmonious and conformed -

The number of Private Land Claims now before this Office, and likely to be taken up

and acted upon, will increase the amount of labor to such a degree, that the Clerical force for the future will necessarily have to be increased.

The work on the Plats of the Pueblos and Towns which have already been confirmed is now progressing very satisfactorily, and in the course of a short time I will be able to forward to your Office the plats made after the samples sent to this Office, of those Pueblos and Towns with the calculations of the amount of Areas all in complete order.

Herewith I have the honor to transmit a Map of the surveys executed in this Territory and reported to the General Land Office.

I would respectfully suggest to your Office, with the view that some action be taken by Congress, the separation from the Surveyor Generals Office, the adjudication of Private Land Claims in this Territory and the establishment of a Board of Commissioners to investigate these claims. There are now on the Docket Book over one thousand Claims to be examined and decided upon, so soon as the Surveyor General can take them up. and in all justice to the claimants those claims should be acted upon at the earliest moment, and by a vigorous prosecution of this branch of the business, the Surveyor General will have no time to devote to the surveys of Claims and the Public Lands.

The accumulation of labor since the survey of claims has commenced, in connection with the intricate investigation of land claims is now becoming very great and entirely too laborious for one man, all of the mental portion of the labor falling on the Surveyor General. A press of claims will be urged before this Office during the ensuing year, and these will have to be acted on, producing much labor, such as reading translations of Old

Documents, taking testimony, summing up judgments & writing opinions, then follows the labor in the Surveying branch which will be of a very varied and difficult character, all of which it will be impossible for the Surveyor General to accomplish. With this view of the business going on this Office, I would most respectfully solicit your Cooperation and hope that you will recommend to Congress the establishment of a Land Board similar to that of California

Estimate of Surveys of Private Land Claims and Public Surveys for the fractional part of the fiscal year 1861. and 1862.

For Private Land Claims already confirmed by Congress, and those to be acted upon hereafter $41,000.00

For Public Surveys, continuing the survey of Meridian, Base, Township & Subdivisional Lines in New Mexico $25,000.00

Less than the above Estimates will not meet the necessities of the service in this Territory and I would most earnestly request that your office will sanction the above amounts.

Estimate for the Surveyor Generals Office for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1862.

For Surveyor General, Alexander P. Wilbar.	$3,000.00
" Translator D. S. Miller	2,000.00
" Chief Clerk. Robert A. Matthews.	2,000.00
" Thomas Means. Computer & Draughtsman.	1,800.00
" Philip Smith & Juan C. Tapia	
Miscellaneous Clerks. - excl $1600	3,200.00
	$17,000.00
Amount brought forward	$17,000.00
Felix Tapia - Messenger.	500.00
Fuel, Office rent and Stationary	3,000.00
For the purchase of English and Spanish law books.	500.00
Total amount for surveys, Salaries, Office rent &c	$81,000.00

I am Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A P Wilbar
Surveyor General of
New Mexico.

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico.
Sept 22nd 1860.

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson
Commissioner Genl. Land Office

Sir,

I had the honor to receive a Copy of the U. S. Statutes at Large" from your Office by the last mail.

I am, Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt.
A. P. Wilber
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
New Mexico, Sept. 22nd 1860

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson
Comr. Genl. Land Office

Sir,

I have this day appointed David J. Miller Esq. formerly of this Office to the position of Translator from the 1st of October proximo.

Mr Miller is absent from this city temporarily, but will return in time to assume the duties of his office.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
A. P. Wilber
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
September 27. 1860.

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson
Commissioner Gen. Land Office

Sir,

In view of the prosecution of surveys in this Territory, and the importance of the Surveyor Generals acquiring such information as would insure the survey of such Public Lands as the Public interest demanded, I would respectfully suggest to your consideration the propriety of the Surveyor Genl, visiting the different portions of the country for the

above mentioned purpose when the duties of his Office will permit. If my suggestion is approved of by your Office, I would be glad to be informed if the actual expenses incurred by the trips would be paid by the Government, out of the amount reserved for contingent expenses of surveys or otherwise.

I am satisfied that an occasional tour through certain portions of the Territory would be of great advantage, preparatory to the Public Surveys.

I am, Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Serv't.
A. P. Wilbur
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
September 30th 1860.

Hon Joseph S. Wilson
Commissioner Genl. Land Office

Sir,

I herewith enclose you the accounts of Mess. Matthews, Means, Smith & Tapia, and respectfully request that the drafts when issued, may be sent to the parties designated in their accounts. I also enclose you my account for the fractional quarter ending this day the 30th instant.

I am, Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Serv't.
A. P. Wilbur
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, N. Mx. Oct 1st/60

Mrs Pelham & Clements.
Deputy Surveyors

Gentlemen

In view of the many difficulties relative to such information as may be necessary to determine the localities of the boundary lines of the Grants which you are surveying, I recommend that you take testimony of any reliable witnesses which you may be

able to find, familiar with the localities of points or boundaries, such testimony must be taken before a legally constituted Officer

I shall recommend to the Commissioner that the expenses incurred in this respect shall be paid out of the amount reserved for contingent expenses relative to the Private Land Grants.

Very Respectfully.
Your Obt Servt.
A P Wilbar
Surveyor.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé, N. M.
October 16th 1860.

Commanding Officer 9th Military Department.
Sir.

I received by the last mail from Deputy Surveyors, messrs Pelham & Clements, a communication in which they state their unwillingness to prosecute their Surveys, in consequence of Indian hostilities in the vicinity of their operations.

The contract which I have entered into with these gentlemen includes a line to be produced from a point on the "Jornada del Muerto" East to the Rio Bonito or Fort Stanton County I am satisfied that it is under the present circumstances entirely impracticable to run the line without an escort & I solicit, should it be convenient with the Public Service, that you furnish Messrs Pelham & Clements an escort of twenty men.

The time required to survey the line would not be more than twenty days, and perhaps less, Your earnest attention is respectfully called to this request. — I am Very Respectfully

Your Obt Servt.
A P Wilbur
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals Office
October 23d 1860

Wm Steck Esq.
U.S. Indian Agent

Sir

Your letter of the 9th inst. accompanied with a sketch plat of the Survey of the Reserve for the Apache Indians, located on the Gila River, has been received, You will please forward to this Office the field notes of said Survey, so as to enable me to have a correct plat made out for the use of the Government, as well as to correctly locate the Reserve upon the Map of surveys in this Territory

I am Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt.
A P Wilbur
Surveyor General

Care of Col S. S. Collins
Superintendent Indian Office
New Mexico

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
October 27th 1860.

Hon A M Jackson.
Secretary of State.
For the Territory of New Mexico.

Dear Sir

I received from you the following numbers of Howards Reports, viz. 4. 5. 7. 8. 9. 10. 13. 14 & 15 for the use of this office also 1 & 3 of the same Reports now in my office belonging to the Territorial Library, You will please receive this as my Receipt for said Books.

Very Respectfully Your

Obt Servt.
A P Wilbur.
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Surveyor Generals Office
Nov 3d 1860

Hon Jos. S. Wilson
Comr Genl Land Office
Sir

To enable me to refer understandingly to the land system of Spain, as applied to her ultra-Marine possessions it is necessary for me to have Whites Recopilacion 2 Volumes, containing Royal Ordinances, Decrees and Regulations These books cannot be had in the Territory and I would respectfully request that you have said books purchased and forwarded to this office.

Such of Peter's Reports, as relate to Grants under Spanish, French or Mexican authority, particularly 6th and 7th Peters, U.S. Supreme Court, Howards Reports are in the Office. The above named books I request you will have purchased and forwarded to this office at an early date,

I am Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A P Wilbur.
Surveyor General.

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico November 10th 1860

Sir

Enclosed please find Voucher for Office Rent for the fractional quarter ending 30th September $118 47

I forwarded to your office a voucher for the full quarter, and have just found out my

mistake. Mr Pelham overlooked to inform me that he had settled the rent up to the time that he retired from office. and he by mistake signed the receipt for the full quarter- I regret that this should have occured. and hope that the error may be corrected in your office

Very Respectfully
your Obt. Servt.
A P Wilber.
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals Office
November 16th 1860

Messrs Pelham & Clements
Deputy Surveyors
- Gentlemen.

In view of the Indian hostilities now raging the Territory and you request to have your work changed in consequence thereof I have caused other contract & bonds to be executed with your work lying between the 2nd and 3d correction lines as described in your contract

I am very truly
your Obt Servt
A P Wilber
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
November 18th 1860

Sir

I herewith have the honor to transmit to your office a contract. and bonds entered into by me with William Pelham and R E Clements for running exterior Township and subdivisional lines between the 2d and 3d correction lines north as mentioned in said contract- The general Indian War which is now being carried on against the Navajoes and Commanches. has prevented the said Deputy Surveyors from carrying out that part of the first contract. and I have been compelled to change their Work from the Fort Stanton Country to the present

place. This change only relates to the Public Land Surveying. The point upon El Jornada del muerto from which the 2nd Correction Line South would have been produced East to Fort Stanton. is upon the most exposed part of the Territory now subject to Navajoe depredation. and I could not expect a small Surveying party to encounter the dangers which now surround our unfortunate Country I applied for an escort for the Deputy Surveyors and the Commanding Officer was unable to furnish troops The Country is now in an open state of violent warfare and I have to arranged the work as to embrace a most profitable section which will be available to the Government when the lands are brought into Market

I hope that the course which I have pursued will meet your approbation

I am very Respectfully
your obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon Jos. S. Wilson
Commr Genl Land Office
Washington DC

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
November 19th 1860

Sir

Hon John S Watts. who requested the survey of the Stevenson Claim. or Silver Mine grant has notified me that he and the parties interested were willing to postpone the survey of said grant until the next year. and as I had so little money and this grant being 350 miles from my surveying operations. and directly through the Indian Country I availed myself the opportunity to keep the Surveying operations as close. together as was Convenient with the public interest without prejudice to any grantees

The hostility of the Indian tribes is now so Terrible that I wonder that my

deputies can perform their work at all and I hope that the Hon Commissioner will at once observe the obvious motives by which I have been governed

I am Sir
very obt Servt
A P Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon Jos S Wilson
Comnr Genl Land office
Washington D C

Surveyor Generals office
New Mexico November 20th
1860

Sir

I have the honor to inform you that all the sketch plats with patent certificates carfully arranged for the Pueblos and private Land Claims Surveyed under the late Surveyor General. Pelham. have just been completed and as they have to be duplicated for the use of this office they cannot be transmitted at present— Besides the grants surveyed under me an being protracted computed. and arranged for transmission at the earliest possible opportunity This causes much delay as they are very large and contain many meander Boundaries—

I have the honor
to be your obt Servt
A P Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon Jos. S. Wilson
Comnr Genl Land office

Surveyor Generals office
Santa Fe New Mexico
Nov 18th 1860

W Claude Jones Esq

Dear Sir

Your letter of the 12th inst was duly received containing three notices to the Surveyor General of this Territory for preemptions I have no authority to receive the such and the

Donation law has expired the Register of this district is the proper person to do this you had better write to the Register at this place and if necessary I will turn over to him the notices which you sent to me

I think however if the claimants settled their claims before the expiration of the Donation law of 1854 that they will hold good and I will record them in my office. Send the proper form of notice. with proof of settlement also

I am very Respectfully
your Obt Servt
A P Wilbar
Surr Genl

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
Nov 20th 1860

Sir

I desire to call your attention to your letter of the 28th July last. giving directions in Reference to the certificate which is to accompany the plat of Survey of a Pueblo or Private Land Claim— your letter says: you will finally bear in "mind that the certificate of Surveys made by you "in the form of the particular approved plat is "to be embodied verbatim in the Patent as the "description. therefore the exact recital of the "Boundaries. Courses. and distances. and of "material points. the Witness trees must be "expressed in terse professional language.

In the sample plat of Santa Clara sent to this office the certificate embraces about five pages of fools Cap— this Pueblo is quite small compared with some of those surveys already made. the one of Belen requires twenty five pages to express in terse professional language its boundaries courses distances etc and I would in this connection remark that to embody in a Patent such a certificate would require so large a Patent sheet as to render it somewhat

impracticable to condense in an ordinary patent sheet so many pages. I have followed strictly however the instructions from you and shall continue to do so until I hear from you upon this subject. the general boundaries with their prominent points thereon can be very readily taken from the Patent Certificate or from the field notes which will be transmitted also. If the Patent Certificate was only to be attached to the Patent. as per form of the particular plat sent to this office there would be no difference whatever. but my impression is to follow the instructions in your letter would give rise to much inconvenience with large meandered claims in filling out the Patents in your office

I very respectfully solicit your early attention to this subject

I am very Respectfully
your obt servt
A.P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon Jos S Wilson
Commr. Genl Land
Washington
DC

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico Nov 21st 1860

Sir

your letter of the 24th october last has been received in relation to the claims of Gervacio Noland and Serafin Ramirez. and in reply to your inquiry. why I designated the claim of Gervacio Noland as No 9. I will state that this claim is registered on the Docket Book as No 9. and that I overlooked to place it upon the corrected list.

thus it was that I made the error

I have the honor herewith to transmit to your office a synoptical epibit and brief of both of these cases. Gervacio Noland No 39 and Serafin Ramirez No 40 agreeing with

the corrected list

I am Sir very Respectfully
your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Sur Genl

Hon Jos S Wilson
Comr. Genl Land Office
Washington
D.C

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico Nov 21st 1860

Sir

I have the honor herewith to transmit to your office the corrected accounts of William Pelham for office rent and of Felis Tapia for pay as messenger.

your letter of Oct 24th ultimo. directs me to pay the rent to the party to whom it may be due. Allow me to assure the Hon Commissioner that I paid the rent to the party from whom I rented the office the same office which has been rented for the last six years for the use of the Surveyor General.

I have paid the office rent for the latter fractional quarter ending 30th of September as the enclosed voucher indicates

very Respectfully
your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar

Hon Jos S Wilson
Comr. Genl Land office
Washington
DC

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico November 21st 1860

Sir

The Surveying which have been made and are now going on under my direction. I have concluded not to have examined - the inutility of examinations are very obvious unless there could be made a thorough inspection of the work which would cost the Government nearly as much as the regular Survey.

In the organization of the surveying parties I have sworn all the assistants myself and instructed them that I held each and every one responsible for his part of the work. By this mode every assistant becomes an examiner. for he swears to his part of the survey after the field notes are returned to the office. this is an economical plan. and productive of better results that if I had commissioned a regular examiner. I believe. if I remember correctly. you favored the idea of employing no examiner of Surveys.

Very Respectfully
Your obt Servt
A. P. Wilbur
Surveyor General

Hon Jos S Wilson
Comr Genl Land Office

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico - Nov 26th 1860

Sir

I gave Mr R A Matthews my Chief Clerk leave of absence to return to Washington with his wife who was in bad health. Mr M. employed a substitute during his absence. Mr Matthews will now not return to this place and I shall dispense altogether with a Chief Clerk. as the duties of that position will fall on the Translator

The Salary appertaining to the Chief Clerk I will use to increase the pay of the two Miscellaneous clerks. a

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
November 26th 1860

Sir

Some time since I gave Mr R A Matthews Chief Clerk leave of absence to take his wife to Washington she being in bad health. he employing a substitute. Mr M will now not return to this place. and I have dispensed with a chief Clerk altogether. his duties falling upon the

Translator. The balance of the salary of Chief Clerk from 1st of October last will be used to increase the salaries of the two miscellaneous clerks and add another clerk all three of whom will receive the same pay a pro ratu division will be made so as to equalize the amount.

I regret that I have not been able to make this arrangement before

Very Respectfully
your Obt Servt
A.P. Wilbar
Sur Genl

Hon Jos L Wilson
Comr Land Office

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
Nov. 29th 1860

Sir

I have the honor to transmit to your office three land claims approved by me - They are named and numbered as follows Pueblo. Montoya No 41 - Antonio Ortiz No 42 - and the Ortiz mine No 43

Very Respectfully
your obt. Servt.
A.P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon Jos L Wilson
Comr. Genl Land Office

P.S. Enclosed please find Schedule of the claims. A.P.W.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
Nov. 29th. 1860

Sir

I have the honor to transmit by this mail a plat of the survey of the claim of Preston Beck Jr. with the field notes of said survey and the Patent Certificate.

This claim contains 318699. acres. By the plat will be seen that the Anton chico tract laps on this claim - Both of these claims have been run strictly in accordance with the calls of the grants.

and should any litigation occur it will necessarily belong to the parties interested.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon Jos S Wilson
Comr. Genl. Land Office
Washington

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
Nov. 29th 1860

Sir

I desire to call your attention to your letter of instructions to this office of July 28th 1860 which says. you will finally bear in mind that "the certificate of surveys made by you in the form "of the particular approved plat is to be embodied "verbatim in the Patent as the description Therefore the exact recital of the Boundaries "Courses and distances and at material points "the Witness trees must be expressed in terse pro-"fessional language - the claim which I now send on. Preston Beck Jr. requires for the certificate twenty one pages giving the courses distances &c. The Belen claim requires twenty five pages of foolscap to give the exact recital of the Boundaries courses and distance &c The impression with this office is that this amount of writing cannot be embodied in the Patent and I would respectfully request that the instructions relative to the Patent certificates may be so modified as to reduce the particularity of this work and only give the general Boundaries

Very Respectfully
your Obt Servt
A P Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon Jos S Wilson
Comr Genl Land office
Washington
DC

Surveyor Generals office
Santa Fe New Mexico
Nov. 30th 1860

Sir
I herewith transmit to your office 4 plats of the Pueblos surveys made in accordance with instructions and samples sent to this office They are named as follows. San Juan. San Ildefonso - Joos - Nambi - Picuris - and Pojoaque - the certificates are attached giving Boundaries Courses distances &c

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A P Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon Jos S. Wilson
Comr. Genl Land office
Washington D.C.

Surveyor Generals office
New Mexico Nov. 30th 1860

Sir
The Survey of the Las vegas claim has been returned to this office by Deputy Surveyors. Pelham & Clements - this tract contains 496446. acres. this survey includes the Town of Tecolote. the area of which is 21636.83 acres. - The opinion of this office is that the area of Tecolote should be deducted from that of Las Vegas. leaving 474809 acres to be surveyed in not more than five square lots.
Your decision upon this matter is solicited in view of the coming surveys under the next appropriation.

Very Respectfully
your Obt. Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon Jos S Wilson
Comr. Genl. Land office
Washington DC

Surveyor Generals office
New Mexico. Dec 1st 1860

Sir
Enclosed please find the approved

account of Messers Pelham & Clements for the survey of the Preston Beck Jr. Claim.
The Deputy Surveyors desire the draft to be sent to Hiram M Northrup of Kansas City Missouri as noted in red ink on the face of the account

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
A. P. Wilbur
Surveyor General

Hon Jos S Wilson
Comr. Genl Land office
Washington
D. C.

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico December 3d 1860

Messrs Street & Richardson
Register & Receiver
of Public Lands -

I have been directed by instructions from the Commissioner of the General Land Office. under date of November 8th 1860 to turn over to your offices an Books. instructions &c relative to Donation claims in this District.

So soon as you are prepared to receive the Books. papers & instructions I will turn over agreeably to instructions

Very Respectfully
A. P. Wilbur
Sur. General

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico - December 5th 1860

Messrs Street & Richardson
Register & Receiver
Gentlemen

By last mail I received instructions from the Commissioner of the General Land office. dated November 8th 1860 to transfer to the office of the Register & Receiver of the Land District of New Mexico all papers books &c relative to the Donation claims under the act of Congress Approved July 22d 1854 (see Statutes at Large vol 10 p 308).

I therefore transfer to your office the following books, papers &c relative to these claims: viz
Record Book Containing 125 entries
Book of original instructions to this office
Notices corresponding to the names dates &c in the Record Book being 125.
Notices for Donation Claims not entered on on the Record Book being thirteen. Letter of instructions dated Oct 21st 1858 from the Commissioner Genl Land office to Surveyor General Pelham.
3 Notices with Letter of instructions by attorney for Claimants registered by this office the Donation law having expired.
I will state that there has been no final action by this office upon Donation Claims the claimants have entirely neglected to attend to the instructions published upon the subject.

I have the honor to be
very Respectfully
your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
December 5th 1860

Sir
Your letter of instructions dated 8th November ultimo. Came duly to hand.
I have this day transfered to the Register and Receiver of Public Lands of New Mexico all the Book, papers & letters of instructions to this office relative to the Donation Claims

Very Respectfully
A P Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon Jos. S. Wilson
Comr Genl Land Office
Washington D.C.

Surveyor Generals office
Santa Fe New Mexico
December 10th 1860

Sir

Considering the uncertainty of the mails going and returning from this city to the States and to save time in the transmission of Treasury Warrants I would very respectfully request that my quarters pay for the quarter ending December 31st 1860 be sent to the House of Hopkins Harden & Kemp of Baltimore. Baltimore street Md.
I learn that Secretary Jackson draws his pay in this manner and it would greatly oblige me to have this quarters pay sent to the House above mentioned.

Very Respectfully
your Obt Servt
A.P. Wilbur
Surveyor General

Hon Jos. S. Wilson
Comr Genl Land office
Washington
D.C.

Surveyor Generals office
New Mexico Dec. 7th 1860

J. Howe Watts Esqr

Learning that you are the Agent to transact business for your father Hon Jno S Watts you will please inform me who are the heirs of Louis Maria Baca or who is the legally authorized persons to transact business for them in the case of the Las Vegas grant &c

your very Respectfully
A.P. Wilbur
Sur. Genl

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico. December 8th 1860

Hon Tomas Cabeza de Baca
Legal Representative of the heirs of Don Luis Maria Baca deceased.

Sir

I hereby certify that the grant to the Town of Las Vegas has been surveyed under

instructions from this office and according to the laws of the United States and that the area of said tract of land is 496446.96 acres under the act of Congress approved June 21st 1860 (see Statutes at Large page 71) the heirs of Luis Maria Baca are entitled to select in not more than five square bodies the amount of land equal to said area upon any of the unoccupied Lands not mineral of New Mexico and the Surveyor General is authorized to survey & locate the same. therefore I notify you that this office is ready to Cooperate with you and receive your application for the location of the lands granted by the Government

A. P. Wilbur
Surveyor General of
New Mexico

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico
December 8th 1860

Messrs Richardson & Street
Register & Receiver
Gentlemen

Application having been made to me this day by Tomas Cabeza de Baca Legal Representative for the Heirs of Luis Maria Cabeza de Baca deceased. to locate one fifth of the land granted to them by Congress to said heirs the said Tomas Cabeza de Baca has selected as the center point of a square tract of land under the act of Congress approved 21st June 1860 the 1/4 Section Corner between Secs. 3 & 34 in Range 4 East of Principal Meridian. Township 19 North of Base Line running to the four Cardinal points so as to embrace the amount of 99,289 acres
This office has approved of such Location and notifies you that said land is not open for location by any other Parties whatever

Yours Respectfully
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico
December 9th 1860

Sir
I have the honor herewith to enclose to your office agreeably to your instructions of July 24th 1860 a duplicate of the certificate issued to the Legal Representative of the Heirs of Luis Maria Baca original Claimant to the Grant of the Town of Las Vegas The further instructions to this office relative to the lands granted to the Heirs of said Baca will receive the earliest attention

Very Respectfully
your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbur
Sur Gene

Hon Jos S. Wilson
Comr Genl Land office
Washington
D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico
December 8th 1860

Sir
Enclosed please find a duplicate of the Certificate issued from this office to the Legal Representative of the heirs of Luis Maria Baca

Very Respectfully
your Obt Servt
A P Wilbur
Surveyor General

Hon Jos S Wilson
Comr Genl Land office

Santa Fe N.M.
Dec. 8th 1860

To the Hon A.P. Wilbur
Surveyor General of the public
Lands in the Territory of New
Mexico

Sir
An Act of Congress entitled an act
Confirming Certain Private Land Claims

in the Territory of New Mexico approved June 21st 1860. to the 6th Section of which you are respectfully referred having been passed for the benefit of the Heirs of Luis Maria Cabeza de Baca deceased. Now therefore as the area of land donated to the Town of Las Vegas has become known to me by a Communication and certificate from your Office, being Four Hundred and Ninety Six Thousand, four hundred and Forty Six acres, and Ninety Six hundreths of an acre (496,446 96/100) I as the Legal Representative of the Heirs of said Baca, by virtue of, and in conformity with the 6th Section of said act hereby select for the location of one fifth of the amount of acres in a square body in the section of Country known as the Valles Grandes and vecinity and which I believe is not Mineral and which is vacant the said fifth part amounting in acres to Ninety Nine thousand two hundred and Eighty Nine and thirty nine hundretths (99,289 39/100) The location to be made in the following manner, by selecting 1/4 section Corner two and a half miles West of the Corner to Townships 19 & 20 North of the Base Line Ranges 4 & 5 East of the Principal Meridian as a common Centre and extending North South East and West a sufficient distance to embrace the area last above mentioned and that the boundaries of said location shall conform to the Cardinal points of the compass

Also you are most respectfully requested to notify the Register and Receiver of the fact of this location.

Tomas C de Baca
Legal Representative of Heirs

Sworn to and subscribed before me this eighth day of December A.D. 1860

A P Hillar
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals office
New Mexico
December 11th 1860

I certify that the foregoing application made by Tomas Cabeza de Baca Legal Representative of the heirs of Luis Maria Baca deceased was presented by said Legal Representative at this office on the eighth instant soliciting under an act of Congress Entitled an act Confirming Private Land Claims in New Mexico Approved June 21st 1860 a tract of Land one fifth the area of the Grant of Las Vegas which said Legal Representative Baca selected at the Valle Grandes and vicinity. to be in square form. vacant & not Mineral said Baca having selected the ¼ section Corner two Miles and a half West of Township Corner to Townships 19 & 20 N. of Base Line. Ranges 4 & 5 East of New Mexico Principal Meridian as a center point to his tract the Boundaries of which lying on the four cardinal points the tract Containing 99,289 $\frac{89}{100}$ acres
This selection being thus made in Conformity to law and instructions and the the land known to be vacant & not Mineral this office approves the selection and has located the same

A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals office
New Mexico
December 11th 1860

Messrs Richardson & Street
Register & Receiver
Gentlemen
I herewith transmit to your Office the application of the Legal Representative of the heirs of Luis Maria Cabeza de Baca for one square body of land being a portion of the land granted by Congress to said heirs.
Also the Certificate of location issued from this

office for said tract of land this certificate is to be acted upon by your office and forwarded to the Genl. Land office for approval Enclosed please find extract of instructions relative to this business Please acknowledge the receipt of Communication

Very Respectfully
your obt. Servt.
A. P. Wilbar
Sur. Genl.

☞ For letter of Decr. 15 to Register see page 315.

Surveyor Generals office
December 20th 1860
Santa Fe New Mexico

Sir-

David J Miller whom I appointed Translator. not having arrived in this city in due time to assume the functions of his office, J. Howe Watts was appointed by me temporarly for this quarter ending 31st December, and his account will be transmitted by this mail.

Mr. David J Miller. will Commence his duties on the 1st January proximo as Translator & acting Chief Clerk

Very Respectfully
your obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon Jos S Wilson
Comr. Genl Land office
Washington
DC

Surveyor Generals office
New Mexico
December 20th 1860

Sir

Our Eastern mail from Santa Fe. to Independence has entirely failed and having no connection with the Overland mail as it was last Winter leaves New Mexico Completely Cut off from Communication with the United States.

this letter I send to a friend at El Paso to be forwarded on the Overland to your office
the continued failure of Mr Halls mail for several years past has been more the result of negligence on the part of the contractors than of difficulties on the Route Last Week the mail was not brought in to this City. even from Fort Union which is only 110 miles distant from this place and directly through the Settlements
the Governmental and Commercial interestes are Completelly stagnated in Consequence on the non arrival of our Mails
we have a heavy tax placed upon us in the transmission of our letters to El Paso to be remailed on the Overland
I would most respectfully call the attention of your Department to the importance of opening Communication between this Territory and the States and my fellow citizens here the Government officers as well as merchants would be glad to see a correction applied

Very Respectfully
your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilber
Surveyor General

Hon Jos Holt
P.M. General
Washington DC

Surveyor Generals office
New Mexico
December 22d 1860

Sir
I herewith transmit the accounts of the assistants in this office for the quarter ending 31st inst. they are as follows. Translator & acting Chief Clerk - Calculator & Draughtsman and three miscellaneous clerks
Since the reduction of the office of chief clerk, Mr Joseph Rose has been added to the list of miscellaneous clerks and his account will show

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilber
Surveyor General

Hon Jos S Wilson
Commr Genl Land office

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico.
December 22d 1860.

Sir.

I herewith have the honor to transmit by your office, the field notes and plats with patent certificates attached, of the surveys of the claims of Anton Chico, Las Vegas and Las Trigos or Don Cacigo Vigil

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A P Wilbur
Surv Genl.

Hon Jas G Wilson
Comr Genl Land Office.

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico
December 22d 1860

Sir

I have the honor to transmit to your Office the approved accounts in favor of Deputy Surveyors Pelham & Clements for the Survey of the Grants of Las Vegas, Las Trigos and Anton Chico.

The Deputy Surveyors request that the drafts may be sent to Hiram McNorthrup, Kansas City, Mo as noted in red ink on the face of the accounts.

Very Resp
Your Obt Servt
A P Wilbur
Surv Genl.

Hon Jas G Wilson
Comr Genl Land Office

Surveyor Generals Office
December 22d 1860
New Mexico

Sir,

I herewith forward to your office all the accounts of my expenditures for the fractional half year ending 31st december 1860 also the abstract which shows that this office has on hand in money 269.81/100 dollars.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Sur. Genl

Hon Jos S Wilson
Comr. Genl
Land Office
Washington D.C.

Surveyor Generals office
New Mexico Dec 30th 1860

J Howe Watts Esq

Sir Reposing full Confidence in your integrity & energy. I herewith appoint you a Special Messenger to convey to the Comr. of the Genl Land Office in Washington the sketch plats of Claims Surveyed. with the field notes of the same approved accounts of Deputy Surveyors approved accounts of Translator & clerks in this office with the general correspondence to the Comr. of Genl Land office in Washington D C you will proceed immediately. by the shortest & most expeditious route and I shall Recommend to the Comr. to pay your transportation and per Diem while en route

Very Respectfully
your Obt Servt
A P Wilbar
Surveyor Genl

Surveyor Generals office
New Mexico
December 30th 1860

Sir

I have been under the necessity to appoint a Special Messenger to convey to your office my Communications in Consequence of the entire failure of the mails- By the Southern route we have no connection with the Overland.

thus we are completely cut off from all communication with the United States
my mails for the last three Weeks have been lying in the Post office at Fort Union 110 miles East of this City. with no hope of their being forwarded. I have consequently sent for them and shall forward by special express
In taking this step I have been governed entirely by a strict sense of Public duty being satisfied that the interests of the Government would be greatly enhanced and hope that you will approve my course
I have appointed J. Howe Watts Esq as special Messenger to deliver to your Office all my returns plats. field notes approved accounts. correspondence &c
I recommend to your favorable consideration that he be paid his actual Transportation and a per diem of 3 dollars per day while en route to Washington. this could be paid out of the fund reserved for contingent expenses relative to claims & Surveys reserved by you out of the last appropriation
I would not feel justified in forwarding so much valuable official matter at this time even if the mails were running in consequence of Indian hostilities
Mr Watts will leave by Southern route and will hand you this letter

very Respectfully
your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon Jos S Wilson
Comr. Genl Land office

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico
December 30th 1860

Sir
I have the honor herewith to transmit Claim No 44 approved by this office called Ojo del Espiritu Santo granted to Luis Maria C. de Baca

Very Respectfully
your obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon Jos S Wilson
Comr. Genl Land office
Washington D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, N.M., Dec. 30, 1860.

Sir-
On the plat of the Grant of Preston Beck Jr. the connections with the Public Survey appears to be in Range 21 E. a mistake of the Deputy Surveyor in the field which was not discovered by this office until the Plats of Las Vegas & Anton Chico were protracted - the Grant of Anton Chico having the same Connection as the Grant of Preston Beck Jr. the Connection was made in Range 20 East instead of 21 East, therefore the Ranges on the Plat of Preston Beck Jr. should be numbered 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24 & 25 E.
You will please have this mistake on the Plat & Field Notes of the Preston Beck Grant corrected otherwise I will send you at your Request a Corrected Plat

Your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Sur. General

Comr Gnl Land Office.

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico
January 2d 1861

Col Thos. T. Fauntleroy
Commander of the 9th
Military Department

Sir-
Having been informed by the Register & Receiver of this Land District, that you had under authority from the President of the United States reserved four Townships on the Canadian River for Military purposes the reservation being temporary until you could select some particular location for a Fort,

you will please inform me if such particular location has been made, or when it will be made as this office has an application to locate a large body of Land on said river, and the Public interest requires that I should proceed to locate said lands without any delay.

Very Respectfully
your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General
of New Mexico

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 5th 1861

Sir

In view of the approaching expenses of this office for the coming half fiscal year and to enable me to meet such expenses. I would most respectfully request that you send to me the balance of the appropriation for office rent stationary fuel &c.

Hon Jos S Wilson
Comnr Genl Land office
Washington
D.C.

Very Respectfully
your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe. New Mexico
January 8th 1861

Col Thos T Fauntleroy
U.S. army

Sir

Having in view the Public interest, and desiring to act understandingly, I request that you furnish this Office with a copy of your order or instructions relative to the reservation which you have made of the Lands on the Canadian River By act of Congress, approved June 21st 1860 - Sec 6 you will see that I am

required to locate certain Lands in favor of the heirs of Luis Maria Cabaza de Baca

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico
January 4th 1861

Hon Tomas C de Baca
Sir

The amended application presented to this office by you as the Agent and Attorney for the heirs of Luis Maria Cabaza de Baca is herewith rejected, this office not being empowered to receive <u>Conditional</u> applications for Land.

I shall proceed to locate the second square, as required by your application of the 15th ultimo

Yours Very Respectfully
A. P. Wilbar
Sur. Gene

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe N. Mexico
January 14th 1861

Col Thos. T. Hauntleroy
U. S. army

Applications to locate land on the Canadian or Red River in this Territory are becomeing very numerous and my official duties will require me to act in a very short time, and in view of a speedy specialty of the land required by you for a Fort, I would very Respectfully recomend to you, Deputy Surveyor R. E. Clements as a suitable person to run out any line or define any point which blongs to the Public Surveys in that region.

Very respectfully your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 20th 1861

Sir -

I have the honor to transmit to your office sketch plat of the Survey of E. W. Eaton claim. with Patent Certificate and field notes of the same, Also plats and field notes of the Public Surveys, executed by Messrs Pelham & Clements under their Contract with this office of November 15th 1860.

Very Respectfully
your obt. Servt.
A. D. Wilber
Surveyor General

Hon Jos. S. Wilson
Comr. Genl
Land Office

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
January 20th 1861

Sir -

I have the honor to transmit the accounts of Deputy Surveyors Pelham & Clements. one for the Survey of the E. W. Eaton Claim. and the other for the Public Surveys made by those gentlemen under Contract with this office of November 15th 1860, I will in this Connection state that the Deputies have exceeded their Contract. some three hundred dollars. which I recommend be paid them as the work would have been left in an unfinished Condition.

Very Respectfully
your obt. Servt.
A. D. Wilber
Surveyor General

Hon Jos. S. Wilson
Comr. Genl Land Office

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
Jan 20th 1861

Sir -

On the 15th of December last Thom

Cabaza de Baca, Attorney for the heirs Baca, original Claimant to the Las Vegas Grant, filed in this office his application to locate on the Canadian River, one fifth of the Land granted to the Las Vegas heirs I called on the Register and Receiver of this District to know if said lands were vacant and was informed by those Officers that Col Fauntleroy had reserved four Townships temporarely for which he intended to select a permanent post. I have therefore held the application of said Baca without any action, as Col Fauntleroy is now about locating the Post. I shall proceed to locate immediately after the Commanding Officer reports his selection

very respectfully
your obt Servt
A. D. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon Jos. S. Wilson
Comr Genl Land Office

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
January 28, 1861.

Sir ~

I observe that there has recently made its appearance a very valuable publication, a copy of which, as my translator informs me, is very much needed in this Office, and, as it cannot be procured here, I would respectfully suggest and request that you procure a copy of the work, and forward it to my address. It is entitled as follows:— Nuevo Diccionario de la Lengua Castellana, que comprende la ultima Edicion de la Academia Española, aumentado cerca ~~mas~~ de 10000 Voces pertenecientes á las Ciencias, Artes y Oficios, entre las cuales se hallan las mas usuales en América, y ademas con muchas Locuciones y Frases sacadas de los mejores Diccionarios modernos. Con un Suplemento que contiene el Diccionario de la Rima y el de Sinónimos. Por una Sociedad Literaria. París: Librería de Rosa y Bouret. 1860.

I repeat, that this Spanish Dictionary is greatly needed in the Spanish department of this Office, and hope the Hon. Commissioner will comply with the above request at his earliest convenience.

Respectfully your obt Servant,
A. P. Wilbur,
Surveyor General.

Jas. S. Wilson Esq,
Commissioner,
Wo., Do.

Santa Fe New Mexico
January 31st 1861

Capt. Chas Baker

Dr Sir.

I desire to obtain some reliable information in reference to the San Juan Country. & would solicit from you in view of your acquaintance with that Country a statement of the general character and extent of the Land there. its resources &c. My object is to make a report thereupon to the Department. so as to have the Land surveyed. Should emigration tend in the direction of that portion of this Territory during the Coming Spring

I remain Yours
Very Respectfully
A. P. Wilbur
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
February 2d 1861

O. P. Richardson Esqr
Register of Land District
of New Mexico

Sir

Col Hamtleroy informed me verbaly yesterday that he had made the Military Reserve on the Canadian or Red River in this Territory you will much oblige me by letting me know at your earliest Convenience where the reservation is made. and if made in conformity to the Public Surveys.

Very Respectfully
your Obt Servt
A P Wilbar
Sur Genl
New Mexico

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
February 8d 1861

O. P. Richardson
Register Land office New Mexico

Sir

I hereby notify you that Thomas C de-Baca. Legal Representative of the heirs of Luis Maria Baca deceased has his application in this office to locate one square body of vacant land not mineral on the Red River in New Mexico the Western Boundary will fall on the Eastern Boundary of the Military Reserve made by Col. Hamtleroy

Yours very Respectfully
A. P. Wilbar
S. G. N. Mexico

Santa Fe New Mexico
December 15th 1860

To the Hon A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General of the Public Lands
In the Territory of New Mexico

Sir

An act of congress entitled an act Confirming Certain private Land Claims in the Territory of

New Mexico, approved June 21. 1860 to the 6th section of which you are respectfully referred, having been passed for the benefit of the heirs of Luis Maria Cabaza de Baca, deceased, now therefore, as the area of land donated to the town of Las Vegas has become known to me by a Communication and Certificate from you as Surveyor General, being four hundred and ninety six thousand four hundred and forty-six acres and ninety-six hundredths of an acre (496.446 $\frac{96}{100}$), I as the legal representative of the heirs of said Baca, by virtue of and in Conformity with the 6th section of said act of Congress, hereby select for the location of one-fifth of the amount of acres in a Square body in the section of Country Known as Red River, it being a tributary of the Arkansas River in the Territory of New Mexico, and in the County of San Miguel, and which I believe is not mineral and is vacant public lands. The said one-fifth amounting in acres to ninety-nine thousand two hundred and eighty-nine acres, and thirty nine hundredths of an acre (99.289 $\frac{39}{100}$) The location to be made in the following manner by selecting the corner to sections 19 & 30, 24 & 25, on the Range Line between Ranges 29 & 30 East and in Township 13 North of the Base Line as a point of begining, from thence North with said Range Line a sufficient distance, thence East to the East boundary of the tract, thence South to the South boundary of the tract, thence West an equal distance with the North boundary, thence North with the aforesaid Range Line to the section Corner described as the point of begining; the length of the east, west, north and south boundaries to be equal and of sufficient length to embrace the area of 99.289 $\frac{39}{100}$ acres as aforementioned. Also, you are most respectfully requested to notify the Register and Receiver the fact of this Location

Tomas C. de Baca,

Apoderado gral. de los Herederos del finado Luis Mª C. de Baca,

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
February 5 1861

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the original application filed in this office December 15 1860.

A. P. Wilbur
Surveyor General

Santa Fe. December 27. 1860

To the Hon Alexander P Wilbur, Surveyor General of New Mexico

The applicants, Heirs of Don Luis-Maria Cabazo de Baca, deceased, through their legally authorized agent and attorney Tomas Cabeza de Baca, respectfully state that having on the 15th day of December, 1860 filed in your Office an application for the location of one of the five floats conceded to them by act of Congress approved June 21. 1860, that they desire to amend the same so that the Western boundary of said float shall conform to the Survey of the eastern boundary of the Reserve for Fort Butler whenever said Survey shall be made. From the terms of said act and the instructions of the Commissioner of the Land Office to the Surveyor General, it is clearly our opinion that we have the preference to any lands that were vacant at the passage of said act not being mineral. you are respectfully requested to reserve said lands from location, and also to communicate the fact to the Register of the Land Office for the Territory of New Mexico

Tomas C. de Baca attorney of Heirs

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
February 5 1861

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the original amended application filed in this Office December 27. 1860

A P Wilbur
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
February 5 1861

I hereby certify that the foregoing original and amended applications made by Tomas Cabeza de Baca, legal representative of the Heirs of Luis Maria Baca, deceased, were presented by said legal representative at this office on the 15th and 24th December, 1860, respectively, soliciting under the act of Congress entitled "An act to Confirm Certain Private Land Claims in the Territory of New Mexico," approved June 21, 1860, a tract of Land one fifth the area of the grant to the town of Las Vegas, which land said legal representative selected on the Red River or Canadian Fork of the Arkansas River, to be in Square form, vacant and not Mineral, and adjoining the eastern boundary of the Reservation made by the President of the United States for Military purposes, Known as the Fort Butler Reserve, the said legal representative designating the Corner to Sections 21, 22, 27 and 28 in Township 13 North of the Base Line and Range 29 East of the New Mexico Principal Meridian, as a begining point the boundary line of said tract running from said point North six miles eighteen chains and twenty-two links - thence East twelve miles thirty-six chains and forty-four links - thence South twelve miles thirty-six chains and forty-four links thence West twelve miles thirty six chains and forty-four links - and thence North six miles eighteen chains and twenty-two links, to place of begining, Containing ninety nine thousand two hundred and eighty nine and thirty nine hundredths acres of land. this Selection being thus made in conformity to law and instructions, and the land known to be vacant and not mineral. this Office approves the selection and has located the same excepting therefrom sections 16 & 36 released by said Heirs to the Government

A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
February 5. 1861

I, Alexander P. Wilbur, Surveyor General of the Territory of New Mexico, in pursuance of instructions from the General Land Office do state that, from the best information I can obtain the land above located is vacant and not mineral.

A. P. Wilbur
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
February 6. 1861

Gentlemen-

I herewith transmit to your Office the Application of the legal Representative of the Heirs of Luis Maria Baca, deceased, for the Location of the second of the five square bodies of Land to which they are entitled under the act of Congress of June 21. 1860, together with the Certificate issued by this office locating the said tract of Land, please acknowledge the Receipt of the enclosure

Very Respectfully
your obt Servt
A. P. Wilbur
Surveyor General

O. P. Richardson
W. A. Street
Register & Receiver

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
February 6. 1861

Sir-

I have to advise you that under the act approved June 21. 1860. and in accordance with your original and amended application filed in this Office Dec. 15 and 27. 1860, respectively this office has located the second of the five square bodies of land to which you as the legal Representative of the heirs of L M Baca, decd

are entitled, the location thus made lies in the Red River Section of Country, joins the Eastern boundary of the new military or Fort Butler Reservation, and is embraced within the following boundaries begining at the corner to Secs 21, 22, 27 & 28 in T 13 N. R 29 E. and thence running N. 6 m 18 chs and 22 lks - thence E 12 m 36 chs & 44 lks - thence S. 12 m 36 chs & 44 lks - thence W. 12 m 36 chs & 44 lks - and thence N. 6 m 18 chs & 22 lks to the place of begining. Containing 99.289 $\frac{89}{100}$ acres of land, leaving three other tracts of like size and form subject to location by the same heirs and under the same law on any land in the Territory vacant and not Mineral

Very Respectfully
your obt Servt
A. P. Wilbur
Surveyor General

Señor Tomas C de Baca
Atty Heirs of L M Baca decd
Care of Genl W Pelham
Santa Fe N M

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
February 6th 1861

Messrs Pelham & Clements
Gentlemen

Having received instructions from the Comr Genl Land Office in reference to the survey of the Preston Beck Jr Grant, wherein the Comr. decides that your work is "imperfect," and that the Deputy Surveyors must return to the field and make connections with the Township Lines and the boundaries of the Grant, I therefore direct you to return to the field and make the connections required, not only in the Beck claim but all the others which you have surveyed

Very Respectfully
your obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals office
Santa Fe New Mexico
December 15th 1860

Messrs Street & Richardson
Register & Receiver

Gentlemen

You will please inform this office if any land has been located or reserved on the Red River North of 3rd " " Correction line North

Very Respectfully
your obt Servt
A. P. Wilbur
Sur Genl

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
February 6th 1861.

Sir.—

I am in receipt of your letter of the 1st ultimo acknowledging the receipt at the General Land Office from this office of the approved land Claims of Pablo Montoya No. 41. Antonio Ortiz No 42, and the Ortiz Mine No 43. and also refering me to your letter of the 24th October asking an explanation why the approved Claim of Gervacio Noland on transmitting it to the General Land office, had been marked as No 9.

Immediately on the receipt here of your letter of Oct. 24. I wrote to the General Land office explaining our error in Marking the Noland Claim No 9. and Correcting it to No 39, and Correcting the Serafin Ramirez Claim from No 40 to No. 40.

Enclosed please find a copy of this letter of explanation and correction.

Very Respectfully,
A. P. Wilbur,
Surveyor General.

Jos. S. Wilson, Esqr.,
Commissioner, &c., &c.

[For Copy refered to above see letter of Nove 21. 1860.
Page 285.]

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
February 7, 1861

Sir—

Please inform me upon what date or dates the preemption Claims noted in your letter of yesterday aslying within the Baca location on Red River made in this office on the 5th instant were filed in your Office respectively.

Respectfully
A. D. Wilber
Surveyor General

Col O. P. Richardson
Register of Land Office
Santa Fé,

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
February 7, 1861.

Sir—

The Commanding Officer of this Military Department, Colonel Thomas J. Hamtleroy, having definitively located in the Land Office the Fort Butler Military reservation on Red River, and the Register having informed this office of the fact under date of February 4, on the following day the 5th. I located, by virtue of the act of June 21. 1860. and of the application of the heirs of Luis Maria Baca, deceased, the second of the five square bodies of land to which those heirs are entitled under the law referred to. on the 15th December, 1860. the Register of the Land Office in reply to my inquiry of that date, advised me that "Colonel Hamtleroy had, by authority from the President of the United States, reserved from sale and location for military purposes, the following townships and Ranges situated upon the Canadian or Red River, viz: Township No 13 North of Ranges 28. 29. 30 and 31 East, said lands to be reserved from sale or location until the particular locality of a military Fort in that vicinity is determined upon."

It will be seen by reference to the amended application of the heirs of Baca to locate this land that they selected the eastern boundary of the Military reserve for the Western boundary of their location. It is evident, therefore, that I could not issue the Certificate of location until advised of the precise locality of the reserve.

As stated above I was notified by the Register on the 4th instant of such precise location and on the 5th I located the land applied for by the Baca heirs, in the Land office That Officer informs me, however, under date of yesterday, that certain subdivisions of the land covered by the Baca location had been preempted upon in his office on the 2d instant and prior to the receipt by him of my certificate of the location for the heirs of Baca. This office, regarding the location for the heirs of Baca as having taken effect from the date of the filing of their application in the office on the 15th December last, insists that the location made by the Surveyor General on the 5th instant in favor of those heirs <u>deceased</u>, is the prior and only legitimate Claim upon the land covered thereby.

Respectfully
your Obedient Servant
A. P. Wilbur
Surveyor General

Jos. S. Wilson Esqr
Commissioner Genl Land Office
Washington
D.C

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
Feby 9th 1861.

Sir.
I herewith transmit to you Plat of Fort Butler. Military Reservation.

your Obt. Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General.
of New Mexico

Col Hamilton
Santa Fe N.M.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
February 9th 1861

Messrs Pelham & Clements
U.S. Deputy Surveyors

Gentlemen,

Your letter of the 8th inst. in reply to mine of the 6th inst directing you to return to the field to make certain connections of surveys has been received, in reply I have to say that this office requires you to comply with the instructions contained in my letter of the 6th inst.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A. P. Hilbur
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico
February 13th 1861

Hon Jos S Wilson
Comr Genl Land Office

Sir –

I herewith transmit to your office correspondence between Deputy Surveyors Pelham & Clements and myself in reference to connections of the lines of the Public Surveys and the boundaries of private claims. – You will see that I have directed the Deputies to comply with their contract and instructions from me.

I desire in this connection to give you my reasons for approving their work, although they did not follow the instructions from this office. The hostility of the Indians. the Apaches & Navayos. interfered much with the success of surveying parties; the severity of the season and the unwillingness of assistants to remain in the field under the circumstances. When the surveys were returned to this office I detected the discrepancy after personal examination. Such

Considering the Case. after Careful Reflection I approved the Surveys and Sent on the plats. notes & accounts Carefully prepared under my Supervision. Again the precedents in this office. gave me assurance of final approval in your office of my acts. the Pueblos and Grants heretofore Surveyed as a general thing have only had one or two Connections while Township Lines Crossed them in almost every Case. the foregoing were the reasons which Controlled me. at the same time I was fully aware that the Deputy Surveyors had not Complied altogether with their Contract with this office. yet in every other respect the work has been done well and faithfully.

In view of all these Considerations I would respectfully request. at the solicitation of the Surveyors. that you do not suspend their accounts. as much embarrassment to the Deputies will ensue.

Messrs Pelham & Clements are preparing to return to the field. and in a few days. say five or six. the Commanding Officer will furnish them with an escort of ten men.

Very Respectfully
your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

[☞ Papers enclosed letter of February 6th to Deputies Pelham & Clements, same from these to Surveyor General of Feb. 8th, and the reply to them of Feb. 9th]

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
February 16, 1861

Sir.—

Please find enclosed two papers. one being the application of C. A. Hoppin made in 1856 for a Donation of Land. and the other his letter to this office in relation thereto dated Oct. 11. 1856. which please file in your office. These papers should have been transferred to your office together with those transmitted with

our letter of December 5, 1860, but were out of their place at the time and were consequently not sent

Respectfully
your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Col O. P. Richardson
Register Land Office
Santa Fe

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico
February 24th 1861

Don Joseph S Wilson.

Sir-

Your letters of the 11th. 25th - 29th - and two of the 30th of January have been received, and the instructions therein contained have been complied with

Very Respectfully
your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Sur General

Surveyor Generals office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
February 23. 1861

Sir.-

I have received your letter of the 7th ultimo acknowledgeing the receipt at the General Land Office of particular approved plats of survey with attached patent Certificate of the Pueblo Surveys of San Juan, San Ildefonso, Taos, Nambé, Picuris and Pojoaque - also particular approved plat of the Claim of Preston Beck, jr., with patent Certificate attached and transcript of field notes in extenso. I will forward the plats and transcripts in extenso of the field notes of these Pueblos, together with plat of the Beck Claim Survey, as soon as Completed.

The particular approved plats with attached

patent Certificates of the Surveys of all the Pueblos and Private Land Claims which have been surveyed are completed, together with duplicates of plats. So soon as the triplicates of plats are done and transcripts of field notes made out, they will be transmitted to your office.

Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
A. P. Wilbur
Surveyor General

Hon J. S. Wilson
Comr General Land Office

Surveyor Generals Office
February 28th 1861

Captain Chas Baker

Dr Sir.

Your letter of the 16th ultimo I received at the hands of Captain George Chamberlain with a sketch of your exploration in the San Juan Country.

I am exceedingly obliged to you for the kindness, and at my earliest convenience will make a report to the Government with a view to have Surveys made in the San Juan Region.

With many kind wishes for the prosperity of your people and the success of your Mining District, I have the honor to remain Yours

Very Respectfully
A. P. Wilbar

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe. New Mexico
February 3d 1861.

Sir -

I have the honor to inform you that the plats of Pueblos and Private Land Claims are in active progress of Completion and that so soon as they are finished they will be forwarded to your Office.

Much work is behind in this

Office and it has required the diligence of myself and assistants to bring it comparatively up. but so soon as the labors of this office can be accomplished the plats notes &c will be speedily forwarded to the General Land office

very Respectfully
your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon Jos S Wilson
Comr Gene Land office

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
March 23. 1861

Sir
I have the honor to acknowledge the reception, by todays mail from the States, of the comprehensive and admirable printed annual Report of the Commissioner of the General Land office, with the accompanying documents and lithographed Sketch Maps.

I respectfully request that as many extra copies of the lithographed sketch map accompanying my Report as it may be convenient for the General Land office to spare be forwarded to this office

very respectfully
your obedient Servant
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon Jos. S. Wilson
Commissioner
General Land office
Washington
D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
March 29th 1861

Sir

I received, a few days since, a letter from Mr Robert A Matthews, who was my chief clerk when I took charge of this office - I gave him leave of absence to return with his wife, who was in ill health, to Washington City - he, agreeing for me to employ ~~employed~~ a Substitute - I so informed you in a letter dated november 26th 1860 - Mr Matthews writes me that he claims his pay for the time of two months, at the rate of two Thousand dollars per annum I have concluded differently; the Substitute which I appointed added another subordinate clerk to the office, and I reduced the Chief Clerkship, giving the difference of pay to the under Clerks - the duties of C.C. falling on the Translator -

In this connection I would respectfully state to the Commissioner that when I come to this City, that I found several clerks in the office more than could be provided under the appropriation for this fiscal year, and when Mr Matthews come with me I was not aware that the appropriation for clerks salaries ~~Clerks Salary~~ had been reduced two Thousand dollars below that of the previous year. I was compelled to discharge two clerks who held office under Mr Pelham my predecessor -

I hope that I have satisfactorially explained to you that what I have done is proper and I cannot in justice to the subordinate clerks approve of any account in favor of Mr Matthews -

Very Respectfully
your obt Servt
A P Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon Jos S Wilson
Commr
Genl Land Office
Washington
D C

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico
March 30th 1861.

Hon Jos S Wilson
Comr Genl Land Office.

Sir—

I have the honor herewith to transmit to your Office my returns of disbursements for this office for the fiscal quarter ending 31st March 1861.

You will see by the Abstract accompanying my returns that I have paid for the Government 370 31/100 dollars more than I have received from the Department at Washington—

Your letter of 4th of February last informs me that you requested the Secretary of the Interior to remit to me five hundred dollars to enable me to meet the current expenses of this office for the quarter ending 31st inst—

No draft has been received by this office for that amount of funds In view of the embarrassed condition of this office. I would very respectfully solicit your most convenient attention to this subject.

I have the honor to be
Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
March 31, 1861.

Sir:

Accompanying please receive the approved salary accounts of employees in this office for the fiscal quarter ending this day, as follows:—

David J. Miller. Translator. ..... $500.
Thomas Means. Computor & Draftsman ..... 450.
Philip Smith. Clerk ..... 350.
Joseph Rose, Clerk ..... 350.
Juan C. Tapia. ..... 350.

and cause the drafts due to be forwarded as respectively requested by these gentlemen on their accounts.

Very Respectfully,
your Obedient Servant,
A. P. Wilbar,
Surveyor General.

Hon. Jos. S. Wilson,
Commissioner Genl Land Office,
Washington, D.C.

United States Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico March 31st 1861.

Hon Jos S Wilson
Sir:-

Your letter of 30th of January. informing me that my Salary for the quarter ending the 31st of December 1860. had been refered to the Secretary of the Interior for payment- and to be paid to the House of Hopkins. Harden & Kemp. at my request- Three Months has passed and there is no information that said Salary has been paid-

The Comr. will much oblige me by having said Salary paid to the firm above mentioned

Very Respectfully
your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar

United States Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico March 31st 1861.

Hon Jos S Wilson
Sir-

By J Howe Watts Esq
I forwarded to your office the accounts of Translator and clerks for this office.

I have not heard that these accounts have been settled, and much embarrassment has necessarily ensued. Money is scarce, and my assistants have to depend on their friends to meet their personal expenses

The Comr. will be kind enough to notify this office if the accounts have been paid

I am very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar,

Santa Fé, N.M.
April 7th 1861.

Hon Jos S Wilson
Comnr. Genl Land Office
Sir.

I acknowledge the receipt of a Draft for the amount of $500.00 the Receipt for which amount has been sent to the Treasurer at Washington

I am respectfully
Your Obt Servt.
A P Wilbar
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico
April 7th 1861

Comr. Genl Land Office,
Sir:-

I request that you will cause the Treasurer of the United States to remit to this office, the remainder of the appropriation for office rent &c, for the Surveyor Generals office in this Territory so as to enable me

to meet the current expenses of the office.

Very Respectfully
your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbur
Surv: Gene.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
April 7th 1861

Sir:-

I herewith enclose an account for $167.80 for Stationary and Candles for this office the Stationery portion of this account was made by my predecessor William Pelham and the articles charged for having been received and used in the office it is but just and proper that Mr Whiting should be paid in full and I recommend to the Commissioner the payment of the account out of the appropriation for office rent &c.

If you order the payment please take a receipt from Mr. Whiting and advise me of the same

Respectfully
your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbur
Surveyor General

Hon Commissioner
of the Genl Land Office
Washington D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
April 13th 1861.

Hon Jos S Wilson
Comr Genl Land Office

Sir-

Your letter of January 6th 1861. in reference to the deduction of the area of Yecolote from that of Las Vegas has been received. The act of Congress of 21st of June 1860. Statutes 1860. page 72 Confirms to the heirs of Baca the amount in acres contained in the grant to the

Town of Las Vegas which was made in 1835. and the grant of Tecolote was made in 1824- This office holds that the Baca Claimants are not entitled to the area of Tecolote and that it should be deducted.

The Government has surveyed both of these claims at great expense, and certainly would not allow the Baca heirs to hold two Boundaries one within the other. This office hopes that the Commissioner will order the deduction of the Tecolote area from that of Vegas-

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbur
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico
April 14th 1861.

Hon Jos S Wilson
Comr Genl Land Office

Sir-

I am in receipt of your letter of the 21st of March last in reference to the Surveys of Private Land Claims, made under Contract with Deputy Surveyors Pelham & Clements by this Office- In this connection I have to say that your instructions in reference to the connections of the Public Surveys with the Boundaries of these Claims have been Complied with, and that the plats and amended field notes are in progress of completion, and will be forwarded to your office as soon as possible

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbur
Sur: General

Surveyor Generals office
New Mexico.
April 17th 1861

Genl Wm Pelham

Dr Sir-

I have made arrangements with Mrs Houghton to rent her house for the office of Surveyor General of New Mexico & will vacate your premises on the last of this present month

Very Respectfully
Your obt. Servt.
A. P. Wilbur
Sur. Genl.

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico
April 22d 1861.

Comr Genl Land Office

Sir-

I have the honor to transmit an agreement made between this office and Mrs Caroline Houghton for a house suitable for the Surveyor General in this Territory. I have contracted at the same rates as formerly paid by the Surveyor General-

In making this change I have been governed by a sense of public interest The Building which I have procured is more convenient and much safer than the one now occupied by this office

Very Respectfully
Your obt. Servt.
A. P. Wilbur
Sur. Genl.

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico
April 26th 1861

Hon Jos S Wilson
Comr. Genl Land Office

Sir-

I hereby notify your Office that I have changed the office of the Surveyor General from the old building to one more Convenient to the Public and one much safer for the valuable Public Property and the Archives belonging to this Office. The same rate of rent is paid as was paid for the old building Commencing on the 1st prximo

In taking a different house I have been governed entirely by a sense of public duty

Very Respectfully
your obt Servt
A P Wilbar
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
April 20. 1861.

Sir:

Your letter of the 16th instant making certain inquiries in regard to the grant of land made by the Government of Mexico to Narciso Beaubin and Stephen L Lee, has been received.

In reply I have to say that the grant was confirmed to Charles Beaubin, heir and assignee of Narciso Beaubin and Stephen L Lee, deceased, by act of Congress approved June 21, 1860

Very Respectfully
your obt Servant
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

C. D. Hendren, Esq,
Culebra,
Colorado.

U. S. Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico
May 3d 1861.

Philip Smith Esq
Sir

your Services are no longer required in this office and up to this date you will be pleased to make out your account and present it to me for approval

Very Respectfully
your obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Sur: Genl

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
May 4 1861.

Hon Jos. S. Wilson
Comr Genl Land Office.
Sir-

I have the honor to transmit to your office plats of the Claims of Las Vegas. Las Trigos and E. H. Eaton: Also plats of the following named Pueblos. viz: San Juan, San Ildefonso, Taos, Nambie, Picuris. and Pojoaque Also form plats of Public Surveys viz T 9 N. R. 11 E.- T 10 N. R 11 E- T 12 N R 8 E- T 12 N. R. 10 E- also Notes in extenso of five of the foregoing Pueblos- the San Juan field notes having been sent previously also Field notes of the Survey of the Connections of the Claims of Preston Beck Jr: Anton Chico: Las Vegas and E H Eaton, with the Public Surveys.

In this Connection I would State that this office has not required the Deputy Surveyors to Connect the Public Surveys with the boundaries of Claims where a boundary is Common to two claims as in the Case of Las Vegas, where the Moro Claim (unsurveyed) ajoins the Las Vegas. the instructions from this office to Deputies being to Connect only where a Private Claim was bounded by the

Public Domain -

I also draw your attention to an Error committed by the Deputy Surveyors in the first Connection made with the Claim of Preston Beck Jr and the Grant of Anton Chico with the Public Surveys - In the examination of Corners of Public Surveys when they returned to the field the Deputy Surveyors discovered their error and report that the Connection should have been 13.25 Chains West of the Corner to Sections 31 & 32 Township 13 N. R. 21 E. from which report I have had the Connection made with the Public Surveys - This Correction should be made in the Notes in extenso Also in the patent Certificate in your Office I have made the Correction in the Original notes in this Office -

Very Respectfully
your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbur
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
May 5. 1861.

Hon Jos S Wilson
Comr Gene Land Office

Sir

I have the honor to report that I have been compelled to discharge Mr Philip Smith, one of my Clerks for Disobedience of orders and neglect of duty and have appointed Chas B Magruder to fill the vacancy -

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Sur. Gene

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
May 8, 1861.

Sir.—

Accompanying I have the honor to forward to your Office the approved account of Philip Smith, late Copying Clerk in this Office, for his services up to the 3rd instant inclusive.

Please have the draft to be issued in payment thereof forwarded as requested on the face of the account.

Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City,
D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
May 10, 1861.

Sir.—

My predecessor, on retiring from this office, omitted to leave among the archives, and has since failed to turn over to me, though duly requested to do so, the Statement of his incidental expense account sent up to the General Land Office for the fractional third quarter. 1860, ending Aug. 28. 1860.

I have, therefore, to request that you have prepared and forwarded a Copy of that return, that it may be filed in its proper place in this Office.

Very Respectfully
your Obt Servant
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon Commissioner General Land Office
Washington City,
D.C.

Despacho del Agrimensor General
Santa Fé Nuevo Mejico
á 18 de Mayo de 1861.

Señor:

Relativo al Documento (una merced de Pedro Gonzales y otros) que ha dejado V. en esta Oficina para enregistrarse, tengo que decirle que este Despacho no es Oficina de Registros, sino de Archibos. En uno de estos (el libro de Registros marcado letra "B," que existe aqui como archibo) está ya enregistrado el mencionado Documento, como se vé certificado en él.

No siendo pues, admisible el registro aqui y la devolucion al dueño del dicho original, he considerado propio el protocolar este con los demas reclamos de terrenos existentes en este despacho: pero acompaño á V. una Copia devidamente certificada la cual puede V. remitir al Señor Felipe Chavez, en cuyo nombre ha depositado V. aqui el referido documento.

Con el mayor respecto,
Su atento Servidor,
A. P. Wilbar.
Agrimensor General.

Señor Dn. Simon Delgado.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
May 18. 1861.

Sir.—

I am in receipt of your letter of the 22a ultimo containing instructions "to collect all the original field notes and plats or diagrams of those surveys now falling within the Territory of Colorado" for transmission to the Surveyor General of that new Land District when applied to for them by him, &c. &c.

This Office will at once proceed to comply with the instructions, and will soon furnish the General Land Office as requested with an estimate of the extent of documents to be turned over and the amount of labor to be performed here in carrying out fully these instructions.

Respectfully
your Obedient Servant
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds.
Commissioner General Land Office

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé. New Mexico
May 24. 1861.

Sir

In my letter of November 3d 1860, I requested the Commissioner of the General Land Office to have purchased and forwarded to this Office certain Books for the use of the Land Claim department of the Office, there being none of the kind to be had in New Mexico. The necessity for these books, for reference in the adjudication of the land Claims now before the Surveyor General is very great, and must be apparent to the Hon Commissioner.

In my letter of January 26, 1861, I also requested to be furnished with a certain Spanish dictionary, then and now very much needed in the land Claim department. as will be more fully apparent when I mention that the Translator has hitherto been obliged to borrow a dictionary for his use, and that even this has now been called for by the owner.

If it has not already been done, I hope that these Books may be procured and forwarded as I have requested.

Very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
A. P. Hilbar
Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner Gel Land Office
Washington
D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
May 24. 1861.

Sir.

Your letters, dated respectively April 29th. and May 2nd, 2nd, and 3rd, reached me by the last mail.

In that of the 3d instant I find that you have reduced the salaries of the Clerks in this Office considerably, and lessened their number one. This reduction of the number and Compensation of the Clerks in this Office will not, in my opinion, be doing justice either to them or the business of the Office. The salaries specified in

your letter will barely give the Clerks a support in this place. Coffee is now worth here one dollar per pound, Sugar fifty cents, flour $24 per barrel - and everything else is in proportion. Under the circumstances here indicated I would respectfully appeal to the Hon. Commissioner to continue the present rates of Compensation, so that the Clerks may be able to live without falling in debt. The gentlemen connected with me in this Office are all of high attainments, and are suited only to the peculiar duties pertaining to Scientific labor; and at least should be allowed enough to recompense them in some adequate degree for their ability and fidelity. Heretofore they received as much as $1800 per annum respectively, and their present pay is only $1400. upon which, even, they can hardly live - and now to reduce them to $1300 and $1200. will probably result in the Office being deprived of the services of the present Corps of employees, whose places it would be difficult, in this Country, to fill with individuals of equal Capacity and experience.

The reduction of the number of my Clerks will materially retard the operations of the office. Not only the Surveying branch of the business but the land claim department requires a greater amount of labor than even the present force can perform. The examination and adjudication of the grants occupy all the time of the Surveyor General, who has besides, to overlook the Surveys.

In addition to what I have said I may also state that the work of this office, especially in the labor of recording the field notes and translating the Spanish documents, has been left in an unfinished Condition for the last several years under the administration of my predecessor.

I repeat that in view of all the facts and circumstances I have referred to, I hope the General Land Office will authorize me to continue my present Clerical force, and at the same rates of Compensation heretofore allowed.

Very respectfully
your Obedient Servant
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon J M Edmunds
Commissioner
General Land Office
Washington DC

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
June 1. 1861

Sir:

Enclosed please receive the account of Messrs. Pelham & Clements, Deputy Surveyors, for surveying the "Connections" of the private land Claims therein named with public surveys, and have the draft to be issued to them forwarded to their address at this City, as requested on the face of the account.

Respectfully
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commissioner General Land office
Washington D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
June 1. 1861

Sir

In order to enable me promptly to meet the necessary current expenses of this office, and in view of the near approach of the close of the present Quarter, I take occasion respectfully to renew my request of the 7th of April last that you have forwarded me the balance of the appropriation for that service for the fiscal year ending the 30th instant.

Very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
A P Wilbar
Sur General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Comr General Land office
Washington D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
New Mexico
June 6th 1861

Hon J. Houghton

Dear Sir -

I have carefully examined the papers left by you in this Office, in reference to the Survey of the E. H. Eaton grant; and have come to the conclusion that the Survey is as near correct as the indefinite boundaries given by the act of possession could be made.

The declaration of Jose Maria Martinez who was first Alcalde of Santa Fe does not accord with the act of possession which he made in 1827; and moreover this Office conceives that all surveys should be run from point to point except where it is otherwise expressed in the original papers of any grant such as Pueblos that are directed to be run towards the cardinal points.

Any testimony in relation to this claim should have been made before Surveyor Pelham at the time he reported on the case, at this time it would be irrelevant for me to accept testimony when a case has been confirmed by Congress.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar
S. G.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
June 7th 1861

Hon J. M. Edmunds
Commissioner of the General Land Office

I have the honor herewith to transmit to your Office fourteen plats in duplicate viz:- Zia. Cochiti. Jonez. Santa Clara. Tesuque. Pecos. San Felipe. Claim of Tecolote. Chilile. Pueblo of Sandia. Claim of Belen. of Tome. Pueblo of Santo Domingo. and Isleta. one

Copy of each Contains the Patent Certificates Carefully Compiled from the original field notes in this Office.

Also notes in extenso of the following Pueblos & Claims.- Pueblos of Isleta- Jemez- Santa Clara- Jesuque- Pecos- Cochiti- and the Claims of Tomé and Belen-

I would in this Connection State that all of this is old work of the former Surveyor General which has been ordered by your Office to be remodelled-

Very Respectfully
your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar.
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
June 8, 1861.

Sir.-

Your letter of the 11th ultimo is received; and its Contents occasion me both surprise and mortification, in as much as it refuses on the ground that the extravagance of the local administration of this Office has been such as to have exhausted the funds, to remit me the balance of the appropriation for Office rent, &c, for the Fiscal Year ending the 30th instant.

I beg to be allowed most respectfully to differ with you in regard to my extravagance- for Certainly I have not expended one Cent except what was absolutely requisite in Carrying on the Office, in substantiation of which I would refer you to my quarterly returns of expenditures. Should the evidences and reputation of extravagance have attached to the local administration of this Office under my predecessor, I would respectfully suggest that this is no reason that it should Continue to be so Characterized under mine. It has been my earnest and Constant endeavor to economize the expenses of the office to the extent a proper regard for the interests of the government might allow.

In regard to the account of Mr Whiting I stated to you in my letter of April 7th that the Stationery portion of the account was made by Mr Pelham, my predecessor. I found the paper in the Office at the time I entered on

my duties It was not placed in the property return, as the account therefor had not been paid. It is yet here except such portion as has been consumed in the service of the Office. I refused for several months to recommend the payment of the Stationery account of Mr Whiting, as the paper had been received into the Office during the administration of my predecessor; but at his earnest solicitation I approved it, knowing the Stationery was in the Office and deeming it just that the Government should pay for what it had received. I approved the account conditionally, that is to say left the matter of its payment entirely to the Commissioner.

I cannot comprehend the statement from your Office that the appropriation for Office rent, &c., has been exhausted. According to our data here, even including the account of Mr. Whiting and our estimated expenditures for this the last quarter, there will remain an unexpended balance of the appropriation of $2500 made by Congress for this Office for this Fiscal Year.

The only way I can account for your remark that my request for the remittance referred to "cannot be granted owing to the exhaustion of the means x x x x x and to the failure of the deficiency appropriation to cover the deficit," is to suppose that the item of $600.25 claimed by my predecessor in his return for the fract. 3d quarter 1860 has been allowed and paid which item was created in the previous fiscal year and had been disallowed by the Commissioner. If this $600.25 has not been allowed and paid there ought to remain a balance of between $300 and $400 undrawn from the $2500 appropriation in the U S Treasury as my accounts to be sent up at the close of this fiscal quarter and year will show

Very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
A. P. Filbar
Surveyor General

J M Edmunds Esq
Commissioner General Land Office
Washington, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
June 13th 1861

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, from the General Land Office, through todays Mail from the States, of a Copy of the "Statutes at Large and Treaties of the United States of America passed at the Second Session of the 36th Congress 1860-61"

Very respectfully
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office
Washington, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
June 22nd 1861

Sir,

Your letter of the 23rd ultimo containing certain information and instructions for the guidance of this Office, has been received and the instructions will be duly observed.

Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Surv. General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office
Washington. D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, N. Mexico
June 29th 1861

Sir,

Your letter of the 23d of May last having been received, and a portion of which relates to my disbursements, the manner in which the payments should be made to the parties with whom I have dealt, I would respectfully request that the larger amounts, such as that to Mrs Houghton for house rent, and that to the Messenger Felix Tapia be sent to those parties by draft as you desire; deducting these two amounts, one for two months rent to Mrs Houghton,

the other for Messenger as shown in the Vouchers from my actual expenditures, the remainder to be sent to me in a draft to liquidate that which I have paid out. The balance of the whole will show that out of the 2500 dolls appropriated by Congress for this fiscal year will leave something like 300 dolls reverting to the Government Treasury.

I make this request simply because it would place Treasury Department to much trouble to issue so many Warrants for so small amounts as are shown in my abstract & Vouchers accompanying.

The Commencement of the next fiscal year I will hold in view your instructions dated 23d of May, and so arrange my disbursements as to comply.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Comr. Genl Land Office

Santa Fé, New Mexico
June 29th 1861
Surveyor General's Office

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Comr. Genl Land Office
Sir,

I find by a careful examination of the Deputy Surveyor's Accounts for this fiscal year that there is 630.35 dolls left unconsumed. This Office requests that this amount may be employed in the Private and Public Land Surveys for the next fiscal year, commencing July 1st next. The reason why I suggest this is that the Citizens of this Territory are very anxious to have their Lands Surveyed and Separated from the Public Domain. this is guaranteed under the Treaty of 1848 with Mexico. at least all their rights as Citizens

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
June 30th 1861

Sir,

Accompanying you will receive my financial return for the fiscal quarter ending to day – being a Statement of all my receipts and expenditures, as Surveyor General, during the period referred to.

Being now at the close of the fiscal year, and in view of some of your recent letters in which it is stated that the appropriation for my Office rent, &c. has become exhausted and a deficiency been thereby created, I deem the occasion proper to state in detail the Condition of that fund at this date, according to our data here.

June 23d 1860.	Appropriation for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1861 –		$2500.00
August 29	Surv. Genl. Pelham's expenditures 1st Qrtr. Ending	$275.12	
Sept. 30	" " Wilbar's " " " "	153.32	
Dec. 31	" " " " 2d "	576.87½	
Mch 31, 1861	" " " " 3d "	640.12½	
June 30,	" " " " 4th "	538.17	2183.61
	Unexpended balance of Appropriation		$316.39
	Amount of the Appropriation		$2,500.00
Aug. 29, 1860	Amt. due Surv. Genl. Pelham on settling his a/c	$275.12	
" 26	" rec'd. by Surv. Genl. Wilbar in Washington	1000.00	
April 6. 1861	" " " Do by remittance	500.00	1775.12
	Amt remaining in the Treasury		$724.88
	Amt. due Surv. Gen. Wilbar		408.49
	Amt of Appropriation unexpended as above		$316.39

Referring you, in this connection, to my letter to the General Land Office of the 8th instant, I am

Very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant,
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commissioner General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
June 30th, 1861

Sir,

Accompanying please find the approved salary accounts of the following employees in this Office for the fiscal quarter ending this day, viz:

David J. Miller, Translator and Ch. Clerk	$500.00
Thomas Mears, Draftsman	400.00
Juan C. Garcia, Clerk	350.00
Joseph Rose, Clerk	350.00
Charles H. Blassenden, Clerk	223.08

and cause the drafts to be issued in payment thereof to be forwarded as respectfully requested on the face of the accounts.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
J. P. Milton
Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commissioner Genl. Land Office,
Washington City,
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico
June 30th 1861

Sir:

Please receive herewith an Abstract of Purchases and a Ledger of Expenditures — being an exhibit of all the public business received care of me by my predecessor in Office and of that in my own receipts during my administration, as also of all the Contracts expended, those now on hand in good Condition and those now on hand that must or may soon be used.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
J. P. Milton
Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commissioner Genl. Land Office
Washington City,
D.C.

Surv. Genl. Office
New Mexico
June 30th 1861

Hon J. M. Edmunds
Commissioner Genl Land Office
Sir,

I respectfully request that you have caused to be issued a Treasury Warrant for my Salary for the first quarter ending this month for $750. and send the same to Augusta Merino, Front Street, Philadelphia. Pennsylvania.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
A. P. Wilbur
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's office
New Mexico
July 2nd 1861

Col Cook,
U. S. Army
Sir

Having received orders for surveys, some of which fall in remote portions portions of the Territory, near the locality of hostile Indians, I would request that you furnish the Deputy Survey or a small escort for a short time,

In making this request I am governed entirely by the public interest

Mr. Thos. A. Mears is the Surveyor who will hand you this note

Very respectfully
Your obdt Servt
A P Wilbur
Surveyor Genl

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 5. 1854

Thomas Means Esq
United States Deputy Surveyor

Sir

This office having contracted with you for the survey of certain private Land Claims, and the connection thereof with the public Surveys, you will proceed as soon as you can make your arrangements to the field. The private claims named in your Contract and the Two Square Leagues also named, will be surveyed connecting the same with the lines of the public Surveys.

You will take especial Care to connect all private Claims with the lines of the public Surveys, where said lines intersect the boundaries of said Claims, noting your connections carefully in your field Book.

The Two Square Leagues located for the heirs of Baca deceased, and the other Mine Grant named in your Contract, should be included in your survey as soon as possible.

In running the boundaries of the grants, you will be governed by the general instructions to the Deputy Surveyors so far as they may apply to said Surveys. You will be careful to mark your lines on the ground with rock where such can be had conveniently indicating each mark by a distinctive number, giving a description of every Corner in the field Book, bearing trees should be taken from every Corner.

You will Careful to note the latitude and variations of the needle as frequently as the service may require. Taking bearings on all notable objects and observing the same according to the usual rules of Surveys.

You will be Careful not to exceed the sum of Eight thousand dollars as has been expressly in your Contract of the 4th Inst.

In running and marking the boundaries

of the Private Land Claims, You will endeavor to make your surveys as near square lines as compatible with the public work, not invading the rights of other Claimants;

No Claim can be surveyed, which is more than six miles from the Public Surveys, by instructions from the Commissioner of the General Land office,

In reference to the Nora Tewa Grant, you will run the lines in conformity to the Calls of said Grant - as confirmed by the Congress of the United States, giving four boundaries according to the usual mode of surveys, and in running this survey be careful to obtain all the requisite information in reference to the points, and let your closing line be a random which you will correct back. In this grant I would observe that the present Claimants have agreed to relinquish to the present Claimants under John Scolly and others their right and interest to such portions of said Nora grant as may be legally claimed by them

As soon as you have completed any of the surveys herein alluded to, you will by some certain conveyance report the same to this office so as to enable me to prepare the plat and notes for the Department at Washington

You will use Burt's Solar Compass and test said Compass on some of the lines already run

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Serv't
A R Wetmore
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 6th 1861

Sir

On the 4th Inst I Contracted with and Commissioned Thomas Means Esq. as a Deputy Surveyor for the Survey of Certain private Land Claims, per Contract dated on that day, which is herewith forwarded, together with the special instructions given him.

Mr Means is a Scientific man, and one whom I can repose the utmost confidence in

Very Respectfully
Your obdt Servt
A P Wilson
Surveyor General

Hon J M Edmunds
Comr Genl Land office
Washington City D C

Surveyor Genls. office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 6 1861

Sir

In accordance with your request per letter of the 4th ultimo I have the honor herewith to forward in tabular form, the desired statement of the name place of nativity, State or Territory whence appointed official position and annual compensation of each person employed in the office, at the date, for insertion in the "Biennial Register". Should any change occur in this statement prior to the 30th sept. next I will at once communicate the same to you

Respectfully
A P Wilbar
Surveyor Genl.

Hon J M Edmunds
Comr Genl Land office
Washington City D.C.

Statement

Exhibiting the names of the persons employed in the office of the Surveyor General of New Mexico on July 1 1861

Names	Nativities	appt. from	Duties	Pay per annum	
Alex. P. Wilbar	Virginia	New Mex	Surveyor Genl	3000	00
David J. Miller	Alabama	Do	Translator & Ch. Clk	2000	00
Chas H. Magruder	Maryland	Do	Draftsman	1300	00
Juan Climaco Tapia	New Mex	Do	Clerk	1300	00
Jas. M. Edgar	Kentucky	D.	Do	1200	00
Felix Tapia	Mexico	Do	Messenger	400	00

The above exhibit is correct
A P Wilbar
Surveyor General

Surveyor Genls office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 6. 1861

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 6th 1861.

Sir:

A sense of Justice towards the Draftsman and the two subordinate Clerks of this office, and my knowledge of the expense necessarily attending a residence in this Territory, prompts me to appeal to you for the application, for the benefit of these employees, of a portion of the $25.000 appropriated by Congress at the last regular session Chapter XLIV page 139 Statutes at large - "for the Compensation of Clerks in the offices of the Surveyors General, to be apportioned to them according to the exigencies of the public service" so that that the Salary of the Draftsman may remain as heretofore $1800 and of the two Clerks as heretofore $1400 each these would be living rates, but not by any means lucrative ones. It has hitherto been the Custom of the Genl. Land office to apportion a part of that fund to this office for that service

I deem it unnecessary more fully to give my reasons for making the suggestion and request but will respectfully refer you to those advanced in my letter to the Genl Land office of May 24th.

I have of Course in accordance with the rates of Compensation assigned the Draftsman and Clerks by you for the fiscal year just Commenced affixed those rates to their Names in the Schedule of Waiters duties &c. for the "Biennial Register" sent up to the Genl Land office by this mail, but I hope that by the close of the current quarter I will be authorized by you to pay those Employees at the rates heretofore respectively allowed them and now asked to be continued to them

Very Respectfully
Your obt Serv't
A. P. Wilson
Surveyor General

Hon. J. McCormick
Comr. Genl Land office
Washington City
DC

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 8 1861

Ramon Salazar Esq
President of a meeting at Tierra Amarilla
Sir

A letter dated yesterday signed by you as President of the meeting and by Mess Geronimo Gallegos and Pedro Salazar as Justices of the peace has been presented to me, In which letter you ask my opinion upon the rights that the settlers at said Tierra Amarilla may have. My regard for that respectable meeting which you inform me will meet again day after tomorrow, prompts me to address you to an response to your said letter, but as the bearer intends to return immediately my answer will necessarily be brief,

The subject of your letter is a matter with which I as Surveyor General and according to the law have nothing to do, This office was established only to investigate and report to the Government the decission of the Surveyor Genl upon the validity or invalidity of the grant purporting to have emanated under authority of one of the former Governments of the Country and not as many suppose, to decide questions between individual and individual, but between the Government and individuals, that is to say, to decide whether the land in question belongs to the Government as public domain, or to the private party claiming it.

This duty, so far as it relates to the grant made in the names of Manuel Martinez and his associates has been discharged by the Surveyor General, and the grant has been confirmed by Congress, and the land described therein recognized by the Government as belonging to the heirs of Manuel Martinez deceased and the settlers, I therefore repeat that this office cannot act upon the subject referred to me in your letter, but that is a matter that belongs solely and exclusively to the Courts,

But as you have requested my opinion as to the right of the said settlers at Tierra Amarilla. I have examined the grant to Manuel Martinez, and it appears to me clear that they the said settlers are entitled to the lands which you have given me

To under Stand they Claim

Very respectfully
Your obt Servt
A P Wilbur
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 13. 1861.

Dr Sir

Yours of the 6th Inst is received and by direction of Surveyor General Wilbur I reply to your request to be furnished with a description of the Gervacio Noland Claim on the St Charles river by making the following extract from the document of possession, as translated and on file in the office.

"Commencing on the S. bank of the arkansas river a league and a half below the Confluence of the Don Carlos river with the former river, was placed the first land mark, thence following up the said arkansas river five Leagues above the Confluence of the don Carlos river was placed the 2d landmark, thence continuing half way up the brow of the mountain was placed the 3d Land mark, and thence following from N. to S the same brow of the mountain to a point opposite the first landmark, where was placed the 4th and last landmark".

Very respectfully
Dav. J. Miller
Ch. Clk & Translator

Hon T D Wheaton
Taos. N M

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 13. 1861

Sir

In Compliance with Your letter of the 29th ult. just received and by direction of the Surveyor General, I send you the following description of boundaries of the "Noland Claim, on the St Charles river"

which description is taken from the translated copy of the grant now on file in this office viz
"Commencing on the S bank of the Arkansas river a league and a half below the confluence of the Don Carlos river with the former river was placed the first Landmark, thence following up the said Arkansas river five leagues above the confluence of the Don Carlos. river was placed the 2d. Land mark, thence. continuing half way up the brow of the mountain was placed the 3d Landmark and thence following from N. to S. the same brow of the mountain to a point opposite the first Land mark where was placed the 4th East Land mark"

Very respectfully
Your obt Servt
Dav. J. Miller
Chief Clerk

Geo N Victory Esq
Canon City
Colorado

Surveyor Generals office
Santa Fe N M
July 19. 1865

Hon Joab Houghton
Register of the Land office

Sir

Herewith you will please receive the descriptive lists of the surveys of Township No 9. N. R. 8. 9 & 10 E Township No 10 N. R. 8 9 & 10. E Township No 11 N R. 8. 9 & 10 E. Township No 12 N. R. 9 E. Township No 5. S. R 5 E. Township No 16. S R 2 W. Township No 17. S. R. 2 W. & 1 & 2 E. Township No 18 S R 1 W. Township No 19. S. R 2 E & 5 W. Township 21 S R 1 W. Township 21 S. R 3 E. Township No 22 S R 5 E. Township No 23 S R 5 E. Township No 24 S R. 5 E. and Township No 25 S Ranges 1. 4. & 5. & 6 East and 1 & 2 West of the principal Meridian

Very respectfully
Your obt Servt
A. R. Wilson
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 19. 1861

Sir

I have this day delivered to the Register of the Land office for which he filed his receipts in this office the descriptive lists of the surveys of Township 9. N. R. 8 9 & 10 E, T 10. N R 8. 9 & 10. E T 11 N. R 8, 9 & 10 E, Township 12 N R. 9. E. T. 5 S. R 5 E T. 16 S. R. 2 W. T. 17. S R 2 W and 1 & 2 E, T. 18 S. R 1 W T. 19 S. R. 2 E and 5 W T, 20 S R 1 W, T. 21 S. R 3. E, T. 22 S R 5 E T. 23 S, R, 5. E, T. 24. S. R 5 E. and T. 25 S R 1 4. 5 & 6, E and 1 & 2 W.

Very respectfully
Your obt Servant
A P Wilber
Surveyor General

Hon J. W Commissioner
Genl Land office
Washington DC

United States Land office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 19. 1861

Received of A P Wilber Surveyor General of New Mexico the descriptive lists of the surveys of Township No 9. N. R 8 9 & 10 E Township No 10 N. R 8, 9. & 10 E Township No 11 N. R 8. 9. & 10 E. Township No 12 N. R. 9. E Township No 5. S R 5 E, Township No 16 S. R. 2 W. Township No 17. S R 2 W & 1 & 2 E, Township No 18 S. R 1 W. Township No 19 S. R 2 E. & 5 W. Township No 20 S. R. 1 W. Township No 21. S R 3 E Township No 22 S. R 5 E, Township No 23 S R 5 E. Township 24. S. R 5 E and Township No 25. S. Ranges 1, 4, 5 & 6, East and 1 & 2 West of the Principal Meridian

J Houghton
Register

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 22d 1861

Sir

Your letter of the 1st Inst. sent by private conveyance requesting me to forward to you at Denver City, "the plats & official Notes of the Surveys made in your [my] Territory surveying jurisdiction and now lying in the Territory of Colorado" has been received.

I already have instructions from the General Land office to turn over to your office, when called upon by you, all the original field Notes and plats or diagrams of those surveys now falling within the Territory of Colorado, together with other official documents relating either to public lands or private claims, pueblos or any other papers, the muniments of land grants to be transferred to you in the same condition in which they were filed in this office, keeping exact record of the same here for future reference

In now complying as far as I am at present able with those instructions and your request, I have the honor herewith to transmit to your office a plat of the surveys from the seventh correction line North, and another plat from the Eighth Correction line North, together with a portion of the field Notes in their original form and condition, and an authenticated transcript of such as are connected, with the surveys lying south of the seventh correction line and within this Jurisdiction,

I regret that a press of business has prevented the office from preparing so as to permit the originals to be forwarded by this opportunity, the retained copies of the muniments of title or papers composing the land grants emanating from the former Governments of the Country and which are known now to lie within your surveying districts, These claims are, I believe, five in number, so far as I have as yet ascertained, and will be transmitted to your office by the first opportunity presenting itself

I avail myself of the kindness of Hon J Houghton to forward to you the field Notes transcripts & plats to which I have referred as being now forwarded

You will find accompanying two receipts in blank which please sign on delivery to you of the matter therein mentioned and return to this office

Very respectfully
Your obt Servt
A P Wilbar
Surveyor Genl N Mexico

Hon J M Carr
Surr Genl Colorado
Denver City

Surveyor Generals office
Santa Fe N Mex
July 20. 1869

Sir

I acknowledge the receipt through the last mail of your letter of the 1st ult. and in compliance with the instructions therein given me, to prepare an exhibit of the work performed during the previous six months by each employe in this office and a schedule in detail of the work on hand to be done during the next six months I have the honor to enclose to you the accompanying exhibits embodying the desired information as nearly as we can get at it

The time established for labor in the office is six hours in the day, a rule adopted since the organization of the office, & in imitation of the system at the General Land office, I assure the Comr that the Gent in the employ of the Govmt in this office have been uniformly attentive (except in the case of one of the discharged Clerks) and efficient in the discharge of their respective duties

Of course I have in the regulation of my clerical force & the assignment of salaries for the current fiscal year, been governed by your instructions of May 3d. Through the compensation is small, the Clerks will accept it, hoping that the disposition and ability of the Govmt will provide better for them for the ensuing fiscal year, I hope it may

Very respectfully
Yr obdt Servt
A P Wilbar
Surr Genl

Exhibit of the work performed by each clerk in

Names of Clerks	Description of work performed.
David J. Miller	General translating and interpreting for the Surr. of the office & copying the same for Genl Land office & Congress information & points, filing, arranging, registering, indexing &c quarterly accounts, returns &c and attending to correspondence
Thomas Means	protracted & calculated the surveys of the surveys, also the Fort Butler reserve in duplicate, &c &c and such scientific explorations as could be procured & made also the calculation of the Pueblo Grants & assisted in comparing
Juan C. Tapia	Copied plats in duplicate of the surveys of the the Fort Butler reserve and also map of the surveys of that
Philip Smith	Copied field notes of the surveys of the Pueblos and field notes of the connection of the private land claims
Joseph Rose	Recorded the field notes of Township No 3. S. R 2, 3 & 4 E. & T. 8. S. R. 4 E. & recorded sixty two letters sent
Th. F. Magruder	Copied the field notes of the 7th & 8th & 9th Correction lines N. the field notes of all the Townships surveyed between the attached the same to the plats of the Pueblos and private land office at Santa Fe, made out duplicate contracts with assisted in comparing field notes, and attended to the Denver Colorado Territory

Note The time of Philip Smith was fractional
" " " Th. F. Magruder do

There have been a great many duties performed by the clerks generally that cannot well be specified, & much was consumed in moving the office, and arranging the papers & appurtenances of the office.

The Surr Genls office N. M during the 6 months ending June 30th 1861

Genl translating documents relating to land in the land Claim branch overhauling and searching among old Spanish archives for desired Spanish Grants of land, general duties of Chief Clk, making out of the office.

Pueblos and private land Claims and their Connections with the public & improved the Map of the Territory in accordance with the surveys. out descriptive lists for the use of the land office at Santa Fe field notes &c

pueblos & private land Claims & two maps of the Territory as Corrected portion of the Territory assigned to Colorado

private land Claims & the Certificates attached to the plats, also the with the public surveys.

5. E. T. 4. S. Rs 3. 4 & 5 E. T. 5. S. Rs. 3 4 & 5 E. T. 6. S. Rs. 3 & 4 E. T. 7. S. Rs from the office & thirty two received

North of the guide meridian through Townships 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35 & 36 7th & 8th Correction line North, made out several certificates and Claims, made out six descriptive lists for the use of the land Thereon as means for the survey of private land Claims &c preparation of the papers & plats for the survey on office at

Surveyor Generals office
Santa Fe N Mexico
July 25. 1861

The above is a true exhibit of the work performed by the several Clerks during the 6 mos ending 30th June 1861

A. P. Wilson
Surr Genl

Exhibit of work to be performed in the Surv. Genls. office N. M. during the fiscal year ending 30 June 1862

32 private land claims now docketed to be acted upon a great many in office not docketed and others that may be presented

74 descriptive lists to be made out for the use of the Land office at Santa Fe of the surveys heretofore executed

The field notes of all the surveys to be recorded except those reported recorded by Joseph Rose,

The work under contract to be examined protracted calculated & prepared for the Genl Land office

The annual reports, quarterly accts. and the general correspondence of the office

The reports of private land claims that may be acted upon during the fiscal year to be forwarded

The translation of private land claims that may be acted upon to be copied & forwarded

A record to be made of all the proceedings had before the Surv. Genl. in relation to private land claims.

A record to be made of all letters received, and also of those sent from the office

A record to be made of all reports and also of all quarterly accts.

Surveyor Genl's office
Santa Fe N. Mexico
July 25. 1861

The above is a correct exhibit of the work to be done in the office during the fiscal year ending the 30th June 1862 as nearly as the same can be ascertained

A. P. Wilbar
Surv. Genl.

Surveyor Generals office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 27 1861

Hon J M Edmunds
Comr of the Genl Land office

Sir

In accordance with your instructions of May 28° I have the honor now to send you a Synopsis of my annual report, with the accompanying estimate for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1862 The report proper may contain some other subjects not embodied in this Synopsis but nothing, I apprehend, important to you in the preparation of your annual report and will be accompanied with a series of tabular statements not referred to now.

Respectively on the 5th September and 15th November 1860 I entered into contracts with Mssr. Pelham & Clements for the survey of certain of the private land claims that had been confirmed by Congress and for the survey of a portion a portion of the public lands. There were surveyed under these contracts the confirmed land claims of Preston Beck Jr. Town of Anton Chico town of Las Vegas, Ignaciano Vigil and E H Eaton, and of the public surveys, the Range line between R. 7 & 8 E Township 12 N. Range 10 & 11 E T. 12 N. Range 11 & 12 E. T. 9 & 10 N Township lines between T 9 & 10 N. R 11 E and T. 10 & 11 N R. 11 E and the subdivisional lines of T 12 N. R 8 E, T. 12 N. R. 10 E. T. 9 N. R 11 E, and T. 10 N. R 11 E, amounting in the aggregate, including the "connections" to six hundred and Eighty miles, fourteen chains and Eighty Thirty four links and costing altogether $9319. 65 which leaves an unexpended balance of $1,30. 35 cts of the appropriation of $10.00 for surveys in this Territory for the last fiscal year. The Surveyor General was instructed to contract for only $9000. worth of surveying "leaving the residue of $1000 for contingent expenses incident to the surveying service in the field"

The last Congress appropriated $10.000 for surveys in this Territory, from which however, $2000 were taken off and applied to the service in the new land district of Colorado, On the 4th Instant I entered into contract with Thomas Means Esq. for the survey of the private land claims known as Tajique, Casa Colorada, Torreon, Manzano, Tejon, San Isidro Cañon de San Diego, John Lamy, Orty Mine, Serafin Ramirez, Antonio Sandoval, Ramon Vigil, Moro, Francisco Martin, Sebastian Martin, location, No 1 & 2 for the heirs of Louis Maria Baca deceased and the connections

thereof with the public surveys, with the condition stipulated in the contract that the whole cost of his work shall not exceed the Eight Thousand dolls. applicable to that service. He is now absent in the field engaged in the execution of the contract, which is to be completed on or before the first day of January next, the Deputy Surveyor in this district have to run great risks from those parts of New Mexico who are continually and everywhere depredating on life and property, as well within as beyond the lines of the white settlements. Heretofore the deputies have generally been unable to procure the necessary escorts to accompany them for protection during their operations in the field, and the consequence was in several instances, their animals were driven off by the Indians before their eyes, and in one they and their party were captured and for some time held as prisoners by the Savages. Had the present contractor not met with the good fortune of being furnished by the Commander of this Military Department, with an escort to accompany him while surveying in that section of country lying along the Canadian river, I doubt whether he could have at all operated in that region.

I have investigated, approved and reported to the General Land office, since my last report, the land claims of Pablo Montoya No 41, of Antonio Ortiz No 42, of the Ortiz Mine No 43, and of Juan Cabeza de Baca, No 44, of which the only one acted on by Congress, so far as I am advised, is No 43, which was confirmed. Others are now nearly ready to be decided by the Surr. Genl and reported for the action of Congress, and will be transmitted to the Genl Land office in time for the action of Congress thereon at the approaching regular session. Others are still pending, as some of the testimony offered by the parties in interest is yet to be taken upon them.

Some of the claims on file in this office lie within the New-Lands district of Colorado, but precisely which they are it is impossible to ascertain, except in some four or five cases. Upon some of these shown to lie in that district I had already taken testimony, when your instructions reached me to transfer all the papers composing them, to the office of the Surveyor General of Colorado, to whom this adjudication now belongs.

In compliance with the instruction just upon me I have forwarded to the Surveyor General of Colorado at Denver City the field notes in their original

form and condition of the surveys of the Eighth and ninth Correction lines North of the exterior lines of Townships 33. 34. 35 & 36 N. Ranges 8. 9. & 10. E. on authenticated transcripts of the surveys of the guide meridian between Ranges 8 & 9 E. through Townships 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34. 35. & 36 N. of the exterior lines of Townships 29. 30 31 & 32 N. Range 9. 10 11 12. & 13 E, and the original plats of the survey north of the Eighth Correction line and a copy of the plats of the Surveys north of the Seventh Correction line the originals being sent when they could be, as directed in said instructions (of april 22) and authenticated copies when otherwise

The boundary line between New Mexico and Colorado should be run and marked as soon as practicable, Until this is done it will be impossible to ascertain whether those land Claims lying in the section of Country crossed by the 37° of latitude lie within this or the Colorado surveying district, and whether their adjudication now belongs to the Surveyor General of New Mex. or of Colorado, It will at once be observed that it is important to the parties interested in these lands, to say nothing of the Citizens generally, that the interterritorial line be surveyed and marked on the face of the earth,

In his adjudication of the private land Claims, the Sur Genl. cannot but sensibly feel the absence of authorities to refer to in arriving at just and equitable decissions as to the rights of parties and of the Govmt. In view of the fact that all the grants under which lands are held in this Country, emanated or purport to have emanated from the Govmt of Spain or of Mexico, and are contemplated by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo and the organic act, and that the Surveyor General is required by the latter to decide upon the validity or invalidity of those grants in accordance with the laws, usages and customs of those Countries, the importance of his acquainting himself with these "laws, usages & customs" as affecting the granting of lands in New Mexico, will be at once obvious, and I have accordingly inserted in my estimates for the ensuing fiscal year an item for the purchase of the necessary books.

In at least one case of the survey of the private land Claims confirmed by Congress the parties were dissatisfied with the survey, claiming that the deputy did not survey to them the quantity of land to which they are entitled under the grants, They appealed to me to order a new survey, which of course in the absence of the necessary authority

to do so, I declined to do, I allude to the claims conferring in the name of E. W. Eaton, No 16 as the boundaries of many of these claims are described in the grant by natural objects of notoriety only in the neighborhood in which the land in question lies, and as the deputy surveyor has conferred upon him great discretion in determining the true boundaries so described it may in frequent cases easily happen that he fails to decide on an survey the true boundaries, or those intended to be described in the grant. It is important and I recommend that a law be passed similar to the existing one passed June 14th 1860 in regard to like surveys in California, so that the true boundaries may be ascertained in a Court of Justice, and so that if the survey was erroneous a correction or a resurvey may be ordered.

I fully endorse the remark of the Comr. in one of his recent letters, that it is the duty of the officers of the Government to endeavor to retrench rather than expand the necessary expenditures in the public service but while mindful of the correctness and propriety of the suggestion, I feel that I could not, in view of the exigencies of the service and of the great expense of living in this Country have estimated at lower figures the respective appropriations required for the ensuing fiscal year. The business of the office is very considerably behind, and it is important that it be brought up, comparatively very little of the public lands has been surveyed.

In order that some of those fine agricultural regions of whose existance I am aware from a pretty extensive knowledge of the Country could be surveyed and opened up to settlement and occupancy, by the Citizens, and in order to provide for the prompt survey of those confirmed Claims yet unsurveyed and others, to be confirmed by Congress, I have estimated for all surveys during the next fiscal year, the moderate sum of $150,000, my predecessor in his estimate for the year just closing asked for $100,000, and in my last annual report I estimated for $150,000 for the surveying service, one of which and I would prefer having appropriated to that service for the next year, but for which, considering the present peculiar condition of the Country, I will not ask

Very respectfully your obt Servt

A. T. Wilson
Surr Genl

Estimate

of appropriations required for the Surveyor General's office of New Mexico for the Fiscal year ending June 30th 1868.

On Salary account.

For compensation of	Formerly paid	Now paid	Pay now asked for	Remarks.
Sur Genl. A P Wilber	$3000	$3000	$3000	Compensation fixed by the organic act. July 22 1854
Translator & Actor D J Miller	2000	2000	2000	To perform also the duties of Chief Clerk
Draughtsman C B Magruder	1800	1500	1800	To be also Computer of Surveys.
Clk Juan C Tapia	1800	1300	1400	Recording letters sent & rec.d & Miscelaneous writing
" J M Edgar	1800	1200	1500	Recording old field notes employment for at least one Year
"	1800		1600	Recording & copying in English & Spanish in private land claim branch of the office
	$12,300	$9000	$11,600	The services are all absolutely necessary, & the estimated compensation low

On Surveying and Incidental expense account.

Object of the appropriation asked for.	Amount.
For the survey of the public lands and of Pueblos & private land claims	$40,000
For the purchase of Stationary, fuel, lights &c Wgs of Messengr. Rent of office, Printing &c	2,500
For the purchase of Spanish & Mexican Law books.	1,000
	$43,500

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New-Mexico
July 30 1867.

A P Wilber
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 28. 1861

Hon J M Edmunds
Sir

Your letter of 25th May notifies me that the Secretary of the Interior has reduced the surveying appropriation from 10 to 8 Thousand dollars the appropriation was made for New Mexico and the land grants already confirmed by Congress should be surveyed under the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo of 1848 and am soliciting this office every day for that purpose, I respectfully call your attention to this subject & hope that you will not detract from the appropriation for New Mexico the $2000 as named in your letter of the 25th May last

Very respectfully
Your obt Servt
C P Wilson
Sur Genl

Surveyor Genls office
New Mexico
Aug 20th 1861

Israel H Pattacks
U S Deputy Surveyor
Sir

Your contract this day concluded with me must be performed according to the manual addressed to Deputy Survs and such instructions as may be issued to you from this office - I deem it unnecessary to instruct you specifically in reference to the survey of one Township, you having been so long familiar with this service - but I will call your attention to the importance of erecting substantial landmarks of rock where not too inconvenient, and also to the utility of taking bearing trees as prescribed by the usual custom of public land surveying

You will proceed immediately to your work

Very respectfully
Your obt Servt
C P Wilson Sur Genl

Despacho del Agrimensor General,
Santa Fé, Nuevo Mexico,
A' 29 de Agosto de 1861.

A' Don. José Serafin Ramirez.
Respetable Señor:

He dirijido al Señor Tomas Means para que mida la merced confirmada de V. Sirvase dar toda facilidad al Señor Means en el desempeño de su deber.

Su atento servidor Q. B. S. M.,
A. P. Wilbar,
Agrimensor General.

Surveyor General's office
New Mexico
Aug. 28 1861

Thomas Means Esq
Depy Surveyor.

Sir

I would especially instruct you to continue your surveys so as to connect the public surveys with private land claims, in so doing, do not neglect the confirmed grant of Serafin Ramirez, in this connection proceed to the survey of Township 9 N 10 North Rs 1. 2. 13. 14 East and subdivide the same, not exceeding your amount of appropriation — as the public exigencies require the strict est economy.

You are hereby so directed that the surveying operations in this district may be conjointed and perfect — You will be careful to obey my instructions unless the difficulties of the times interfere with with your surveying operations, when you will at once report the same to me

Your contract with this office, dated 4th July 1861. requires that you shall survey the private land grant in connection with the public surveys, and this office is desirous that the work should be carefully perfected

Very Respectfully
Your obt Servt
A P Wilbar
Surr Genl

Surveyor Genl's office
Santa Fe New Mexico
Aug. 30. 1861

Sir

Referring to my letter of this date transmitting my accounts and vouchers for the last quarter, and apprehensive that Congress at the late extra session may not have made the requisite appropriation to cover the unpaid expenses of the last fiscal year, I take the liberty of requesting that the amt still due to parties here, as appears from the vouchers sent forward to day, be paid out of the appropriation for the current year. I would remind you that there remains according to our books here, an unexpended balance of $1175 of the salary fund for the last fiscal year, and, if it be allowable, would respectfully and urgently request, that this amount or balance be transfered to the incidental expense fund, and applied to the payment of the accounts of Mrs Felis Tapia $125 — R. Frank Gunn $31.50 Simon Helger $6 and Henry Ruhe $5.50, as the Const has doubtless authorized to be paid out of the appropriation for the last fiscal year debts contracted in the previous one (for I can account for the existing deficiency on no other hypothesis)

I presume the appropriation for this fiscal year may in like manner be drawn upon to meet the deficiency in the last. My motive for making this request is one which I hope and believe the Const will appreciate,

Unaware as I was that the appropriation for the last fiscal year had been drawn upon to satisfy debts created in the office under my predecessor & during previous years, the General Land office never having advised me, and the data in the office showing nothing of the fact, of course I believe there were ample funds available to meet all the liabilities created during the last fiscal year, & it was equally the expectation of the parties who credited the office that they would be paid in due time, the contrary of this calculation and expectation operates unpleasantly to the Surveyor General, injuriously to the interest of the parties to whom the unpaid accounts are respectively due and unfavorably to the credit of the Govmt: and of the

office. I will illustrate this by referring to but one of the creditors in question. The messenger in this office, a Mexican, is a poor man, and he feels very sensibly the delay, though an unavoidable one, which has always attended the payment of his acct. for services rendered. To him it is an important matter and I hope that some arrangement may be made if possible without further delay to pay him, & all the others, and I am especially anxious in the matter as the office is about to pass out of my charge.

I hope however that Congress has made the necessary appropriation, and that therefore my suggestion and request will not have been necessary.

Very respectfully
Your obdt Servt
A P Wilson
Surveyor Genl

Hon J W Edmunds
Comr. Genl Land Office
Washington City
D C

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New Mex.
Aug. 30th 1861

Sir
I received by the last mail, returned to me for correction my account and vouchers for the quarter ending June 30th 61 the same having been sent back on account of there not being sufficient of the appropriation for that year remaining unexpended out of which to pay all the accounts. In compliance with your instructions I now send up the accounts, amended in accordance with those instructions and which show that the whole amt of means placed at my disposal during the fiscal year was $1500, and that my expenditures having exactly consumed that amt.

You instruct me to forward vouchers for the balance of the expenditures made by me during the quarter, in order that the respective amounts due may be paid directly to the parties themselves, and I accordingly send vouchers for amounts due the following parties

In creating these indispensable expenses, the Surv. Genl. was under the impression, and indeed the costs

of the office show, that there remained an unexpended balance of the appropriation for that service sufficient to pay all the accounts rendered up to the close of the fiscal year and chargeable to that fund,

I hope that Congress has promptly made the deficiency appropriation you asked for, and that the parties may not have to wait any considerable time for the amounts due them but that the remittances will be made as respectively requested by them on the faces of their acts at the very earliest practicable period.

The amts due are respectively as follows

To	Thomas H Hopkins for red ink	$9.00
"	Johnson & Wetherell for more	22.44
"	Simon Helger for Rollers for maps &c	6.00
"	Henry Rubo for upg. office fur.	5.50
"	R. T. Green for water urn & stand	31.50
"	L. N. Hodges for P.O. box Stamps &c	9.24
"	Felix Papin for services as Messenger & Guard	125.00
"	Mrs Ann C Houghton for office rent	200.00
		$408.48

Very respectfully
Yr obt Servt
A P Wilbur
Surv. Genl.

Hon J M Edmunds
Comr. Genl Land office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New Mexico
Aug. 31st 1861.

Dear Sir

I am gratified to be able to inform you that the Commissioner of the General Land office, under date of the 2d Inst. has advised me that upon my letter to him of June 8th 1861, he has allowed your paper accounts on file here, and that "it will be paid for in due time"

Respectfully Yr obt Servt
A P Wilbur
Surveyor Genl

David H Whiting Esq
Kansas City
Mo.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
August 30, 1861.

Sir:

Enclosed I have the honor to transmit a contract entered into on the 20th instant with Israel F Battailo for the Subdivision of Township No 15 north in Range No 8 East, which lies in a Section of country into which I have deemed it important that subdivisional surveys should be extended, and which contract is based on the balance which remains unexpended of the surveying appropriation made for the last fiscal year. Mr. Battailo is now absent in the field engaged in the execution of his contract.

Should his work come to more than the amount of that unexpended balance, it is stipulated in the contract that the deficiency be paid out of the surveying appropriation made for the current fiscal year—provided it be not all consumed under the prior contract with Thomas Means.

Very respectfully
Your obedient Servant,
A. P. Wilbur,
Surveyor General.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor Generals office
Santa Fe New Mexico
Sept 4th 1861

Hon Joab Houghton.
Sir

Herewith you will please receive the descriptive lists of Township No 17 South Range No 1 & 3 West, Township No 20 South Range No 1. 2 & 3. E & 2 W and Township 21 South Range No 2 & 3 E of the principal meridian of New Mexico

Very respectfully
Yr obt Servt
A P Wilbur
Sur Genl

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New Mexico
September 5, 1861.

Sir

I have to day delivered to the Register of the Land office the "Descriptive Lists" of
Township 17 South Ranges. 1 & 3 West
" 20 " " 1, 2 & 3, E & 2 W. & 2 & 3 East
" 21 " " 2 & 3 East
for which he has filed his receipt in this office, a duplicate of which I herewith forward.

Respectfully
S. R. Wilson
Surveyor General

Hon J. M. Edmunds
Commr of Genl Land office
Washington D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
September 5th 1861.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit to the General Land Office my Annual Report and the Sketch Map of all the Public and Private Surveys together with the various accompanying Documents. They are respectively numbered and marked as follows:-

I. Tabular Statement of the Surveys executed under the appropriation for the last fiscal year
II. Tabular Statement of the Indian Public Land Surveys
III. Map of the Surveys in the District and of the Territory
IV. List of Colonial Spanish Grants, in New Mexico from 1693 to 1846.
V. Estimate of appropriation for the ensuing fiscal year.
VI. Recommendations of Clerks needed or authorized.
VII. Salary account summary for last fiscal year.
VIII. Miscellaneous expense account summary for last fiscal year.
IX. Index, Material, &c. of Papers enclosed in the office.
X. Copy of letter from Capt. Baker relative to the Gran Quivira Reservation

In consideration of the importance of the report, maps, and accompanying documents, and of the uncertainty at present attending the safe transmission of matter through the mails between here and the National Capital, I have deemed proper to place them all in the hands of a gentleman of prudence and reliability, who will leave here for Washington on the next stage.- I mean Dr Michael Steck, now Agent of the Government for one of the Indian tribes in this Territory

I recommend that the Doctor be paid, out of the contingent fund of this Office, a reasonable compensation for his services in taking charge of and conveying the budget of matter safely to the General Land Office.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
A. P. Wilbar,
Surveyor General.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner Genl. Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
September 7,- 1861.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you, by mail, that I have delivered into the charge of Dr. Michael Steck, United States Indian Agent in this Territory, on the eve of his leaving for Washington, the following documents, which he is to hand you on his arrival there, viz:-

My Annual Report:

I- Tabular Statement of Surveys executed under the appropriation for the last fiscal year;
II- Tabular Statement of Indian Pueblos, their lands, &c.;
III- Map of the Surveys in the District and of the Territory;
IV- List of the Captains General, Governors, &c., in authority in New Mexico from 1698 to 1846;
V- Estimates of appropriations for the ensuing fiscal year;
VI- Memorandum of books needed as reference-authorities;
VII- Salary account current for the last fiscal year;
VIII- Incidental expense account current for the last fiscal year;
IX- Names, nativities, &c., of Employes in this office; and
X- Copy of a letter relative to the Rio San Juan Region, N. Mexico.

I have deemed it prudent to avail myself of this opportunity to send this important budget by reliable private conveyance, as I consider this method of forwarding the documents much more reliable than it would be to do so through the mails during the existing precarious condition of matters and things along the whole route between here and the National Capital.

Hoping the Doctor and his charge from this Office may reach Washington and the General Land Office in due course of time and in safety,

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant

A. P. Wilbar,
Surveyor General.

Hon. S. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner Genl. Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor Generals office
Santa Fe New Mexico
September 8th 1867

Sir

I now hand you the package of papers being my annual report and its accompanying documents which you have kindly promised to receive in charge and convey to the Commissioner of the General Land Office at Washington, I have advised the Commissioner by mail of the placing of these papers in your charge for delivery to him at Washington and in a letter which accompanies the papers now handed you have recommended that he pay you a reasonable compensation for your services in conveying in safety to him the documents refered to,

My instructions require that the documents now placed in your hands be forwarded from here so as to reach Washington by the 15th proximo, I trust therefore that you will on no account allow them if you can prevent it to be delayed beyond that time in reaching the General Land office. And should you yourself from any cause be delayed any considerable time en route, I especially request that you at once forward the papers on to their destination by mail, through which they will go free.

Very respectfully
Your obdt Servant
A. P. Wilbar
Surveyor General

Dr. Mitchel Steck
Santa Fe N M

Surveyor Generals office
Santa Fe New Mexico
September 10th 1861.

Sir

Reposing special trust and full confidence in your skill and integrity, you are hereby appointed an examiner of Surveys, and will repair to the field of operations where Thomas Means is now engaged in surveying the lines of the public Surveys under his Contract with this office dated July 4th 1861, and report the result of your examination to this office

Respectfully
Your obt Servt
A P Wilson
Sur Genl

Israel H Battaile
Santa Fe N M
present

Surveyor Generals office
Santa Fe New Mexico
September 14. 1861.

Sir

With this mail I forward to the General Land office the approved field notes and plat of the survey executed by Israel H Battaile under his Contract with this office No 24. dated August 20th 1861.

I regret to say that I had already gone into this Contract with Mr Battaile, and that he was already absent in the field, when your letter of July 30th on the subject of retained per centage due Certain former Deputy Surveyors was received. That letter will form the subject of another Communication from this office by the next mail.

At the time of making the Contract with Mr Battaile I was actuated by the belief that the $630.35 remaining unexpended from the last fiscal year, was legitimately and properly subject to the service to which I applied it — and I hope the Commissioner will so decide in regard to the account now sent up, and will have the money forwarded to Mr Battaile in a draft as requested by him on his account

Respectfully Yr obt Servt
A P Wilson
Surveyor General

Hon J M Edmunds
Comr Genl Land Office
Washington City. D.C.

Surveyor General's office
New Mexico
September 20th 1861

Sir

In reply to yours of the 15th ultimo, I have to say that there are three land claims on file in this office in the name of Gervacio Noland — the first (No 39), already approved and sent up filed July 10th 1858, the second, July 12th 1858, and the third Oct 2, 1860,

The last named is said to lie partly in Colorado Territory and partly in New Mexico — and I had therefore determined, under my construction of your instructions of April 22d to forward the case as it now stands to the Surveyor General of Colorado, though I had already taken testimony on the validity of the claim.

The case will be decided upon and reported as required by your letter of the above date.

Very respectfully
Yr. obt Servt
A P Wilbar
Sur. Genl

Hon J M Edmunds
Comr. Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's office
New Mexico
September 22d 1861.

Sir

Your letter of 30th July 1861 informing me of my removal, has been received.

I shall obey your instructions and turn over to Hon. John A Clark all the property belonging to the United States Government as soon as he arrives,

Very respectfully
Your obt Servt
A P Wilbar
Sur. Genl

Hon. J M Edmunds
Comr Genl Land office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
October 5th 1861

Sir

I forward accompanying the approved salary accounts of the following employees in this office for services rendered during the fiscal quarter ending on the 30th ultimo viz

David J. Miller	Translator & Chief Clerk	$500.00
Chas F. Magruder	Draftsman	375.00
Juan Chiwaco Papin	Clerk	225.00
James M. Edgar	Clerk	300.00

Please cause the Drafts to be issued in payment of said accounts to be forwarded as requested on the face of the same respectively

Very respectfully
Yr obt. Servt.
A P Wilbur
Surveyor Genl

Hon J M Edmunds
Comr. Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
Oct. 5th 1861

Sir

Accompanying please receive the approved accounts of the following parties, being for the necessary expenses incurred by this office during the fiscal quarter ending on the 30th ult. viz

of Ann C. Houghton for rent of office building	$300.00
of Helis Papin for services as messenger & guard	100.00
of Johnson Wetherell for merchandise	6.50
	$406.50

making in all four hundred and six dolls and fifty cents, as accrued expenditures ending the quarter subject to the office incidental expense appropriation for the current fiscal year.

Please have the drafts to be issued in payment forwarded as requested on the face of the accounts by the respective parties to whom they are due

Very respectfully
Yr obt Servt
A P Wilbur Surveyor Genl.

Hon J M Edmunds
Comr. Genl Land Office
Wn DC

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New Mexico
October 8th 1861

Sir

By this mail I forward to the General Land office the Field notes and plats with the patent certificates attached of the Survey of the orig. mine Grant and of the Location No 2 of the Heirs of Luis Maria Baca

Very respectfully
Your obt Servt
A P Wilson
Surveyor General

Jno Cummins Esq
Commr of the Genl Land office
Washington City
D C.

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New Mexico
October 9th 1861

Sir

Herewith you will please find duplicate receipt of John Wilson Esq Surveyor General of New Mexico for the papers and effects belonging to said office this day turned over to him in accordance with your instructions

Very respectfully
Your obt Servt
A P Wilson
Surveyor General

Hon Jno Cummins
Commr of the Genl Land office
Washington City
D C

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New Mexico
Oct 9th 1861

Sir

In turning over the Surveyor General's office to my successor this day I have caused the various employés in the office to make out their accounts up to date inclusive which please find them accompanying and well oblige

o.

The Gentlemen to whom compensation is due by having the Drafts to be issued, forwarded as requested on their respective accounts.

Acct of David J Miller Translator for		$48.91
" " C B Dragoner	Draftsman	36.68
" " J C Tapia	Clerk	31.79
" " J M Edgar	Clerk	29.35
" " Felix Tapia	Messenger & Guard	9.78

Respectfully
Your obt Servt
A P Wilson
Surveyor General

Hon J M Edmunds
Commr Genl Land office
Washington City DC

The end of A P Wilson's administration

Surveyor General's office
Oct. 9th 1853
New Mexico

J. M. Edmunds Esq
Commr. Genl Land office
Sir

Having turned over to the Surveyor General Hon John A Clark all the archives & property belonging to this office, nine days pay is due me amounting to $73.37 per Diem, which you will oblige me by causing a draft to be sent to Morris Joseph Care of Joseph Jacobs & Co 53 Leonard Street New York City & oblige

Yr obt Servt
A P Wilson
(Late Surveyor General)

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
October 9th 1861

Sir

Accompanying please receive the approved Surveying account of Deputy Surveyor Thomas Means for his services in Surveying location No 2 for the heirs of Luis Maria Baca and the orly mine grant. Please have the draft due him forwarded as requested by him on the face of his account

Respectfully
Your obt Servt
A P Wilson
Surveyor Genl

Hon J M Edmunds
Comr Genl Land Office
Washington City
D C

This is the end of A. P. Wilson's administration.

Surveyor Generals office
Santa Fe New Mexico
October 10th 1861

Sir

I have the honor to transmit herewith my official Bond duly executed and certified, also four affidavits of the responsibility of my sureties, also my oath prescribed by act of Congress approved August 6th 1861, also a list of the persons employed in this office, specifying their duties compensation &c.

Owing to unavoidable detentions on the way I did not reach Santa Fe until the 7th Inst. on my arrival I communicated with Mr Wilbur the Surveyor General, and yesterday he delivered to me possession of the records, maps, books, Notarial & other property of the United States appertaining to this office, for which I gave him duplicate receipts, and I entered upon the discharge of the duties of the office.

I am very respectfully
Your obt Servt
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon J M Edmunds
Comr of the Genl Land office
Washington City

Statement

Exhibiting the names of the persons employed in the office of the Surveyor General of New Mexico on the 10th day of October 1861.

Names	Nativity	Appointed from	Duties	Salary per annum
John A Clark	New York	Illinois	Surveyor General	$3000.
David J. Miller	Alabama	N. Mex.	Translator & Chf Clk	2000.
John M Clark	Michigan	Colorado	Draughtsman	1500.
Juan C Tapia	N. Mex	N. Mex	Clerk	1300.
James M Edgar	Kentucky	N. Mex.	Clerk	1200.
Felix Tapia	Mexico	N. Mex	Messenger & Guard	400.

The above exhibit is correct

John A Clark
Surveyor Genl

Surveyor Genls office
Santa Fe New Mexico
Oct 10. 1861

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New Mexico
October 11th 1861.

Sir

My predecessor, Mr Wilson, in his last annual report, recommends the purchase for the use of the Land Claim department of this office, a number of books of reference a list of which he appends to his report. I find he has omitted the U. S Supreme Court reports. It is absolutely necessary that these reports should be furnished, and I request they be added to the list.

I cannot too strongly urge the importance to the Government as well as to Claimants, of providing this office with the authorities which must be consulted in order that the Surveyor General may be enabled to decide properly upon the validity of Claims to lands under the Spanish & Mexican laws.

I trust therefore that the Commissioner, being the necessity of the case, will cause these books to be purchased & forwarded at the earliest day practicable

I am very respectfully
Your obt Servt
John A Clark

Hon J M Edmunds
Comr of the Genl Land office
Washington City

Surveyor Genls office
Santa Fe Oct. 11. 1861

Sir

Your fav. of Aug 26. enclosing blank forms for of the oath provided by act of Congress, approved August 6. 1861, was received last night.

Before receipt of your fav. I had taken & subscribed the oath, as had also each of my the Clerks in my office, one of which I enclosed in my letter to you of yesterday, the others I have filed in this office

I am very respectfully
Yr obt servt
John A Clark
Surveyor Genl

Hon J M Edmunds
Comr. of the Genl Land office
Washington City

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe October 17. 1861

Hon. W. A. Otero
Secretary of New Mexico
Dear Sir

The law creating this office, imposes upon the Surveyor General, the duty of investigating, deciding and reporting upon, all the Spanish & Mexican grants of land within this Territory

To act understandingly, it would seem to be necessary that the Surveyor General should have, in some authentic form, the names of all the Governors or others exercising the functions of Governor, from the organization of the Territory or Province, to the time of its occupation by the United States in 1846 — The chief clerk & translator in this office has prepared a list of the officers, from the archives deposited here, who have acted in granting lands; but so far as I can learn there is no proof of their authority to act — This list is incomplete It ~~does~~ only includes those whose names appear subscribed to certain documents deposited as above, but does not give, or pretend to give, a true list or succession of the Governors. Many of these ~~claims~~ grants are very ancient & some very extensive — To enable me to decide justly between the Government & claimants, it is desirable, at least, that I should have the proof before me, that the persons who have from time to time exercised the authority of the Sovereign in disposing of the public lands in the Territory, had the power delegated to them for that purpose

The object of this note is, to enquire whether among the archives in your office, there are any records or documents, which would supply this proof. & to request, that you will make such suggestions in respect to the whole matter, as you are so ably enabled to do, from your intimate knowledge of the affairs of New Mexico, both before & since its occupation by our Government

I am very truly & respectfully yours
John A Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New Mexico
October 18th 1865.

Sir

Enclosed I forward the approved account of Vicente Garcia for one box of Star Candles, purchased by me for use in this office, please cause to be forwarded a draft in payment of the same to the address of Mr Garcia I sent this bill to the General Land office at this city, as requested by him on the account.

At the request of Mr Garcia I send this bill to the General Land office now, and without awaiting the close of the current quarter and as all drafts in payment of expenses created by the Surveyors General are, under the new system, to be issued and forwarded directly to the parties to whom the amounts are due, I presume there can be no objection to settling this bill at once

The account now sent up will be included in my report of expenditures for the present fiscal quarter, the whole amount of which, as I shall take care to see will not exceed the maximum of $500 prescribed by the General Land office

Respectfully your obt Servt
John A Clark
Surveyor General

Hon J W Edmunds
Comr Genl Land office
Washington City

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New Mexico October 26 1865

Sir

Your letter of 23d September calling my attention to letter of 30th July to the late Surveyor General, requesting a statement of the amount of retained per centage due Deputy Surveyors under their contracts in this District, over and above the cost of the examination of their surveys, was received on 24th inst.

Herewith enclosed please find statement as required — Upon examination of the papers on file in this office, I find, that the first contract providing for the retention by the Surveyor General of a per centage to cover the cost of examination, is a contract intend

into with John W Garretson dated April 3d. 1856 — this contract provides that 10 per cent of the whole amount accruing on the contract may be reserved by the Surveyor General — the work seems to have been paid for, in two payments — In the first account certified August 25. 1856, $318.17 was reserved to cover cost of examination — In the last account, certified December 27th 1856, the sum of $12.93 is deducted, as the whole cost of examination of the work & the $318.17. received in the first account, is added, so that the account under the contract would seem to be closed — But I find on file an account certified by the Surveyor General dated May 25. 1857 in favor of J. W Garretson for $1139.69, purporting to be the 10 per cent retained out of the amount due on this contract, less the sum of $12.93 paid for the examination of the work — Evidently, if Mr. Garretson received the amount certified in the two accounts, as above, & received also payment of this last account, he was overpaid for the work under the contract of April 3d 1856 by the sum of $1139.69 — There is no evidence of the payment of these accounts in this office — I have left this contract out of the enclosed statement

In all the contracts on file in this office for surveying, since September 7th 1858, the clause authorizing the Surveyor General to retain a percentage to cover the cost of examination, has been stricken out, & I omit in the enclosed statement, the payment to A. P. Wilbur of $366.50 for examination of Kelley & Hagan's work under their contract of May 31. 1859, & the payment to I. F. Battaile of $717.50 for examination of Clements & Archer's work under their contract of July 13 1859 — The above contractors appear to have been paid in full, & the payment for examination, certified to be charged to appropriation of March 3d 1859.

The field notes under contract with I. F. Battaile, No 24, dated August 20 1861, were approved & forwarded by the late Surveyor General on 14th September last

I am respectfully your obt. servt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. W. Edmunds
Commr. General Land Office
Washington City — D.C.

Statement

Of the Amounts retained by the Surveyor General out of the Moneys accruing to Deputy Surveyors upon their receipts with the Surveyor General of New Mexico for Surveying the Public Lands—also the Amounts expended for the Examination of Surveys; and the Balances due the Deputy Surveyors.

Contractor	Residence	Date of Contract	Amount retained	Examiner	Paid for Examination	Bal. due Contractor
John H. Garretson	San Antonio, Texas	December 2, 1856	$334.38	A. P. Wilbar	$149.84	
				Joseph A. Tioy	140.00 $289.84	$44.54
Do	Do	July 29, 1857	64.63			64.63
John H. Garretson, Joseph A. Tioy	Do	January 26, 1858	602.95	Israel F. Battaile	348.61	254.34
Reuben E. Clements	Santa Fe, New Mexico	October 3, 1857	31.00	Norman Archer	30.00	1.00
Do	Do	November 21, 1857	99.61	Do	110.00	
Do	Do	March 13, 1858	266.55	Do	110.00	156.55
Do	Do	August 31, 1858	305.88	I. F. Battaile	150.00	
				C. Archer	152.00 — 302.00	3.88
Robert P. Kelley	Mesilla, N. Mexico	October 5, 1857	177.87	A. P. Wilbar	32.00	
				I. F. Battaile	48.00 — 80.00	97.87
Do	Do	April 10, 1858	110.49	Do	152.00	
Do	Do	August 9, 1858	273.78	Do	430.00	
Alexander P. Wilbar	Santa Fe, N. Mexico	March 3, 1858	215.82	Do	21.00	194.82
Do	Do	September 7, 1858	214.76	Do	400.00	

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New Mexico, Novemb. 2. 1861

Sir

I have this day forwarded by mail to the General Land office, approved plats of "the Ortiz mine grant" and of "Location No. 2 of the heirs of Luis Maria Baca", which should have accompanied the authenticated transcripts of the field notes of said surveys, sent from this office on the 5th ult.

I am very respectfully your obt. servt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. of the General Land office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
November 2, 1861.

Sir.—

Accompanying I have the honor to forward to the General Land-Office, to be sent in to Congress for the action of that body thereon, three claims to land in this Territory acquired under grants made by the former Governments of the country, and all of which were acted on and approved by my predecessor. They are as follows:—

No. 45, José Sutton, consisting of copies of
1. Original title papers in Spanish,
2. Translation of the same;
3 Petition of claimants to Surveyor General;
4 Brief of claimants' counsel;
5-6 Testimony of witnesses; and
7 Decision of the Surveyor General.

No. 46, Town of Cevolleta, consisting of copies of
1 Original title papers;
2 Translation of the same;
3 Petition of the claimants;
4 Brief of claimants' counsel;
5 Testimony in the case; and
6 Decision of the Surveyor General.

No. 47. Private Land Claim, &c. Consisting of copies of
1 Original title papers;
2 Translation of the same; and
3 Petition of Claimants, Brief of Counsel, Withdrawal of Opposition to Confirmation of Claim, Testimony in the case, and Decision of the Surveyor General.

Respectfully, your obedient Servant,
John S. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Hon J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
November 2d 1861

Thomas Means Esq
Deputy Surveyor
Sir

The field notes returned by you of the survey of the private claim confirmed to the inhabitants of Mora, under your contract with this office, dated July 4th 1861, have been examined, and found to be incomplete

1st At the intersection of the East boundary with the 4th & 5th correction lines North, there are no corners established

2d At the point ascertained by you called "Estillero" on the West boundary of the claim, no corner was established, nor was the line run North & South from said point, nor is that part of the North boundary from Black Lake to the North West corner of the claim, surveyed & established

3d The Sapello river ~~being~~ being the South boundary, the stream is not meandered from the corner described by you as the corner established for the North West corner of Las Vegas grant, to the South West corner of this claim, nor does it appear that any corner was established for the South West corner of the claim on the Sapello river

You will therefore return to the field & complete the survey.

The traverse line run by you, to ascertain the

position of the West boundary of the Mora grant passes through the centre of the Plaza of the Town of Upper Mora, at which point you made a station — You will from said station again take the bearing & re-measure the distance to the point in the mountain called "Estillero", and at said point establish a permanent corner, (of stone if practicable) & mark the stone on the East side with the letters W.B.M.G (for West boundary of Mora grant) & on West side with the letters E.o. for "Estillero, & also mark the witness trees — if any be found within a reasonable distance — with the letters W.B.M.G. and also with the word "Estillero" in full, taking the bearing & distance to such witness trees from the corner. From the corner thus established, you will proceed to run & mark the said West boundary, South, to its intersection with the left bank of the Sapello river, & at said intersection establish the South West corner of the claim, marking the stone (which must be used if practicable) with the letters S.W.C.M.G. for South West corner of Mora grant, taking the bearing & distance to two witness trees & marking them with the same letters — Thence from said corner, you will meander the Sapello river, down stream to a point opposite to the corner established as the North West corner of the Las Vegas grant (described by you in your field notes) & make the proper connection with said corner, giving a full description of the same

You will then return to the corner established at the "Estillero", & run & mark the line North to a point, which by mathematical calculation is found to be due West of the corner established by you at Black Lake, (on the North boundary of the claim), where you will establish a corner for the North West corner, observing the same directions, as in regard to the South West corner, except that the stone & trees will be marked with the letters N.W.C.M.G. — Thence from the North West corner you will run & mark the line due East to the corner established by you at Black Lake — in doing which it will be necessary to first run a random line between those points

You will establish mile corners on the West boundary, counting the distance from the corner at the Estillero, & on the North boundary counting the distance from the North West corner

In all respects as far as the same may be applicable you will observe the rules & directions, contained in the printed manual of Instructions to Deputy Surveyors — Your attention is especially called to that part of the printed instructions requiring your assistants, to be sworn at the commencement as well as the close of your work

I am very respectfully your
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
November 7, 1861.

Sir: By the last mail I had the honor of forwarding to the General Land Office three land grants which had been approved by my predecessor, and I now forward another also so acted upon, and which is the last one of those decided but not sent up by him. This claim is in the name of Gervacio Nolan, No 4 and consists of authenticated copies of

The original title papers, marked "A";
The translation of the same;
The petition of the claimants;
The testimony of the witnesses; and
The decision of the Surveyor General.

The land now lies in the new surveying district of Colorado, but the claim has been acted upon by this Surveyor General here, under the instructions contained in your letter of August 15, 1861.

Respectfully
Your obt Svt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commissioner General Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico Nov. 9th 1861.

Mr John M Clark
Sir.

You are hereby appointed a Deputy Surveyor of the United States for the purpose of making examinations of the Surveys executed by Thomas Means under his contract with the Surveyor General of New Mexico. dated July 4th 1861.

Your first examination will be of the survey of the Mora Grant, (so called) For this purpose you will proceed to the Town of Mora and ascertain from the residents at that place or from other parties acquainted with the fact, the exact position of the "Aguage de la Yegua" - which is the east boundary of the grant.

In order that the information which you may obtain may be preserved in this Office for future reference, you will examine under oath, parties whom you may find acquainted with the boundaries of this Claim. After obtaining the information as to the location of the "Aguage de la Yegua" you will visit the place with one or more of the persons communicating the information, and note its position with reference to prominent land marks in the vicinity.

The boundaries of the Mora Claim as defined in the original grant are as follows" On the North the Acale river; On the South to where the Sapeyo empties; On the east the Aguage de la Yegua, And on the west the Estillero."

Mr Means is now in the field engaged in the survey of the West boundary of this claim — If you find that the East boundary of the claim as surveyed by him does not conform to the boundary as ascertained by you, you will inform him of the fact, that he may run a new line in accordance with the grant.

You will make such other and further examination of the Survey of the Mora grant as you may deem necessary to satisfy yourself that the work has been done in accordance with the printed "Manual of instructions to Deputy Surveyors" and the special instructions from this Office

When you have completed your examinations you will report the result with the depositions taken by you to this Office.

Your actual necessary expenses will be paid, of which you will keep a strict account; and as far as practicable return vouchers with your account of disbursements.

Very respectfully and truly yours.
John A Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico Nov 27. 1861

Sir

In examining the field notes of the Survey of the private claim confirmed to Serafin Ramirez, I had occasion to refer to the notes of the survey of the Pueblos of Santa Domingo, San Felipe & Sandia, and I find that the connections made with the public surveys, in the survey of San Felipe and Santa Domingo are erroneous.

The 3d correction line North, crosses the Rio Grande, on the South boundary of Section 36 Township 13 North Range 3 East, and does not again cross or intersect it — The proper connection was made with this line in the survey of the Pueblo of Sandia. In the survey of the Pueblos of Santa Domingo and San Felipe, the connections are reported as having been made with the line between Townships 13 & 14 North Range 5 East, 34 chains East of 5 mile corner (Corner between Sections 33 & 34) on West bank of Rio Grande

It appears by the field notes, that the line between Townships 13 & 14 North Range 5 East does not intersect the Rio Grande, but that the line between Townships 14 & 15 North Range 5 East does cross the river, at about the place indicated in the survey of these Pueblos, on the other line — It is evident therefore that the connections of the public surveys with the surveys of the Pueblos of Santa Domingo, and San Felipe are erroneously stated in the field notes, & that the line with which the connections were made, is the line between Townships 14 & 15 instead of Townships 13 & 14 — This should be corrected. Will you direct in what manner?

I am very respectfully your obt. serv.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commr. of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico
December 30, 1861.

Sir,

I enclose herewith a sketch of the survey, as returned to this Office, of the Mora grant, confirmed by act of Congress approved June 21, 1860. I also enclose copy of a deposition taken before me in relation to the East boundary, and the report of Mr. John M. Clark, who was sent by me, after the return of the survey, to take proofs as to the position of the point called "Agua de la Yegua."

The boundaries of this claim as surveyed and returned by Mr. Thomas Means under his contract dated July 4, 1861, seemed to me so unreasonable—taking in a territory equal to nearly 1300 square miles—that, without questioning the correctness of the report of the Deputy Surveyor as to the name of the initial point of this survey being identical with that mentioned in the grant, I considered it my duty to ascertain if there was not another "Aguaje de la Yegua" east and in the vicinity of Mora. In accordance with this determination I sent Mr. John M. Clark, one of the Clerks in this Office, to Mora, with instructions (a copy of which is enclosed) to examine persons under oath in relation to the matter. The enclosed report is the result of his mission. I also obtained the deposition of Juan A. Lopez (a copy of which is herewith enclosed), who swears positively to the existence of a pond called "Agua de la Yegua", 2½ or 3 leagues east of the village of Mora. If I could discard the testimony of the witnesses examined at Mora this deposition would be conclusive, and I should direct the survey to be made in conformity with it; but there is a great preponderance of testimony in favor of the larger boundary. Taking the point described by Lopez I should locate the boundaries as indicated on the enclosed sketch by red lines—excluding from the survey, as returned, more than 50000 acres of land.

The "Aguaje de la Yegua", made the initial point in the survey of Mr. Means, is in no sense an east boundary. Standing at the village of Mora it is in almost exact line with the point (mouth of the Sapello river) named as the south boundary, and more than twenty miles beyond it. It is most probable that the grantees desired the valley of the Mora river beyond their settlement as their common for pasturage, &c., and that for like purposes their common should extend eastward to the summit of the ridge dividing the valley of Mora from the waters flowing eastward—this would give them about equal commons on the east, as they faced on the west of their settlement.

I am informed that no part of this claim, outside of the boundary indicated by the red lines on the enclosed plan, has ever been occupied in any manner by the grantees, or those claiming under them, and that they have

never exercised any acts of ownership over it.

The interests involved in this case are of such magnitude that, with the conflicting testimony before me, I am unwilling to decide it without first submitting the whole matter for your consideration and opinion.

I beg leave to refer you to Executive Doc. No. 14, 1st Sess. 36th Cong, H.R., pp. 180 and following, for evidence concerning grants, and to Ex. Doc. No. 17, p. 139, 1st Sess. 31st Congress, H.R., and to laws of Mexico in force October, 1835 in relation to limitations as to extents of territory to be included in town grants.

I am, very respectfully, your obt. servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commr. Genl. Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
November 30, 1861.

Sir,

I enclose herewith an account of expenses incurred by Mr. John M. Clark, acting under instructions from this Office, in examining the survey of the Mora grants. (See letter of this date, with his report.) Please forward draft as directed.

I am, very respectfully, your obt. servt.

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Comm. Genl. Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico.
November 30, 1861.

Sir:

Upon the letter of the Commissioner of the General Land Office dated July 11, 1861, requiring me to give you the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, dated May 20, 1860, the Office has acted as the legislature of Congress has fixed upon in the Land Laws, for the Gila Survey. The Commissioner ordering at the same time a diagram

of New Mexico to indicate the locality of the Reserve. On the 9th of October Indian Agent Steck informed this Office that he had had the Reservation surveyed, and he enclosed in his communication a plat of the Survey. On the 23rd the Surveyor General addressed Agent Steck acknowledging the receipt of his plat and requesting the fieldnotes of the survey of the Reserve – but no reply was ever received from him.

I would also direct your attention to the fact that the third and fourth sections of the act of Congress making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department, &c., approved February 28, 1859, grant a reserve of land, not to exceed one hundred square miles in extent, lying on the Gila river, in Arizona, and in this Land District, to the confederated bands of the Pimas and Maricopa Indians, and that the Reservation was made and the boundaries thereof were run and marked in 1859. The fieldnotes of this Reservation have not been filed in this Office, nor has there been any official information received from the General Land Office relative thereto, except its location laid down upon the diagram accompanying your letter of July 11, 1860, before referred to.

Inasmuch as we are here in possession of no official information or data for filing among the archives of this Office as a claim upon the land covered by these two Reservations, and as there have been no fieldnotes of either Reserve Survey filed in the Office whereby definitively to locate and delineate on our maps the respective Reservations, and in order to ensure due respect thereof in the progress of the public surveys in the region of country in which they lie, I respectfully suggest and request that authenticated transcripts of the fieldnotes in each case be furnished this Office.

Respectfully, your obedient Servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the Genl Land Office.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico December 11. 1861

Sir

In the investigation of claims to lands in this Territory, under grants from the Spanish and Mexican Governments, the claimants have never been required by the Surveyor General to produce – nor have they ever given – any evidence as to the quantity of land embraced within the boundaries named in the grants, the distance from one boundary to its opposite – or from the center, the appearance

of the landmarks, or in fact any evidence to aid the Surveyor in making the survey, or the Surveyor General in deciding upon its correctness; but in the proofs, the whole question of boundary & of area is left as indefinite as it is found in the original grant, without explanation or qualification

The Deputy Surveyor has been sent to the field to locate and survey the grants confirmed by Congress, with no other information concerning their boundaries or extent, than that contained in the original grant, and in fixing the limits has been guided by the very unreliable information derived from inhabitants in the vicinity, who have directed him without responsibility, & often doubtless with intent to mislead him

The Surveyor General has had no means within his reach, of correcting any error which may have been committed by the Deputy; & the system has resulted in leaving the location & extent of the claim almost entirely to the claimant, who of course is interested in enlarging his boundaries as much as possible

I submitted the question of boundary of the claim No 32, confirmed to the Town of Mora, in my letter to the Commissioner of the General Land Office of 30th ultimo — The Deputy Surveyor has returned to this office the field notes of the survey of private claim No 14 confirmed to Jose Serafin Ramirez — He reports that, in making the survey he was attended by the claimant & others — The claim as surveyed seemed to me so much larger than was contemplated in the grant, that I refused to approve it until I could obtain some further information — I am now satisfied that the claim, instead of nearly 200,000 acres as surveyed, does not probably contain more than 20,000 or 30,000 acres.

The survey of the two claims above mentioned, with one other, are the only ones which have come before me for examination — I have suspended them all for the same reason

Aside from the question, whether the surveyor has identified the landmarks mentioned in these grants, and made his location and survey in conformity therewith, it seems to me there are other questions in regard to their extent which deserve consideration

Are not grants made by the Provincial government, or its officers, limited in extent by the law of the Supreme government in force at the time?

To what extent did the laws of Spain & Mexico authorize the Governors of Provinces or others to concede lands to individuals, colonists or towns as a reward for settlement?

Were the grants of land in New Mexico ever sanctioned or approved

by any public act of the Supreme Government?

By the decree of the Mexican Congress of 18th August 1824 (which I believe remained in force until the occupation of this Territory by our Government) no one person was "allowed to obtain the ownership" of more than one square league of irrigable land - four square leagues of land dependent on the seasons, & six superficial ones for the purpose of rearing cattle

By the "regulations" of Nov. 21, 1828 the minimum of irrigable land, to be given to one person for colonization, was 200 varas square, & of land called de temporal, 800 varas square, & for breeding cattle, 1200 varas square. The same proportions being exactly observed in both cases.

In all the Town or Colony grants, there was surveyed by the Justice who put the party in possession, and allotted to each petitioner or colonist, a certain number of varas - varying from one hundred to three hundred - of irrigable land - the commons for pasturage were not defined by natural boundaries, such as; mountains streams &c - these commons were rarely if ever surveyed - the distance from the place of the proposed settlement to the limits of the commons not seeming estimated in the grant. - Is it not therefore reasonable to conclude that the Government intended, in grants to individuals & to colonies or towns, that the proportions between irrigable lands, & those called de temporal, & for breeding cattle &c, should be always preserved? at least that they should not be exceeded? That, if 200 varas of land were assigned to each of any number of colonists, the community should have assigned to them for pasturage &c lands equal to 200 varas for each colonist & no more?

It may be asked, why then were not the boundaries of the commons fixed, so as to include the exact amount to which the community should be entitled under the law, & no more? The answer I have already given - the irrigable lands only were surveyed, the boundaries of the commons were given; that the colonists should not go beyond the points named - the commons were to be within the points given, and not necessarily to extend to them

By a decree of the Governor of Chihuahua of 22d March 1791, the maximum to be allowed to one town (pueblo) was four leagues square, for all purposes. I cannot determine by reference to any authority within my reach, whether this decree was in force in this Territory, or at what time the Mexico was withdrawn from the jurisdiction of the State of Chihuahua - the decree at least shows the ideas in regard to the extent of Town grants held by the Mexican authorities - Perhaps there are other decrees in relation to the extent of town & other grants, which have not come under my notice - there being no complete collection

within my reach I cannot refer to them

The minimum of irrigable & other lands to be granted to colonists being fixed by the law, I suppose that when no greater amount than the minimum (200 varas) of irrigable land was surveyed & allotted to them, they could only claim of other lands in proportion to this amount to wit: 2000 varas for pasturage &c or 2200 varas for all purposes.

Applying this rule to the Town grant above referred to, the colony, consisting of 76 persons, would be entitled — giving to each member the minimum fixed by law — to a concession for all purposes, of 367,840,000 varas, equal to about 13,920 acres — This would also be about equal to the maximum of 4 leagues square, fixed by the decree of the Governor of Chihuahua before referred to.

The colonization law of 18th August 1824 above referred to, is very explicit in limiting the amount of land which one person may own — The 12th section provides that "no one person shall be allowed to obtain the ownership of more than one league square &c" It seems to me there can be no doubt that when the land marks named in the grant to an individual shall be found to include more than 11 square leagues, they should be so far disregarded as to give to the claimant the maximum allowed by the law within the boundaries, & no more

It must be remembered in deciding these questions, that the dominion rests with the supreme government, that the Provincial governments, Captains general & others, in granting these lands are but the agents of the Government which held the fee, that there are laws in force limiting & regulating the concessions to individuals & colonies, and that in no instance, so far as I am informed, have the grants of land in this territory ever been approved by the supreme government in such manner as to give its approval the force of law

If it shall be decided that the landmarks given in these grants shall only be considered as the ultimate boundaries, within which the claim is to be located, — giving the claim only the extent allowed by law — and not as the lines to which the claim shall extend, the great difficulty in the way of separating these from the public domain will in a measure be obviated — But if the system heretofore adopted is to be followed, of leaving the whole matter to the Deputy surveyor. I see no way in which the public interest can be protected

The Surveyor General having nothing but the grant and the

survey returned by the deputy before him, being restricted by no rule as to the area of the claim - cannot decide whether the claimant is entitled to one hundred, or one hundred thousand acres.

In one of the cases above referred to (the Town of Mesa grant) I refused to approve the return, simply because it seemed to me to embrace too much territory - there is no evidence in this office to show that it does not embrace 100 miles square, instead of about 36 miles as surveyed; and if there was no law to limit these subordinates in giving away the public lands, the survey may, after all be correct. The inhabitants of the town of Mesa could not complain, if this rule of limitation was applied to their grant, for it would give them not less than 60,000 acres of commons, outside of their improvements.

I suggest that these questions - if they have not already been decided by competent authority - are of sufficient importance to be submitted to the attorney General

Your early attention to the above is earnestly solicited

I am very respectfully your obt. Serv.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon J. W. Edmunds
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico Dec 13. 1861

Sir

I am obliged to purchase, by the "Burro" load, all the wood consumed in this office, and of course have to pay for it, as it is delivered - No contracts can be made for the delivery of wood unless paid for as above - In view of the probable advance in the price during the winter months, I have purchased a quantity sufficient to last until probably the middle of the next quarter, and have advanced for this purpose over $90.00, of my own funds, in sums from 81 cents to $2.00 - I think it could not have been the intention of the commissioner, by his letter of 23d May last, to require the Surveyor General to advance the amount of money necessary to meet these small, & daily recurring expenditures - The office rent $300.00 & the pay of Messenger $100.00, leaves a balance of but one hundred dollars, to meet all other expenditures of the office during the quarter - This amount ($100.00) I have to request, for the above reasons, may be remitted to me at the commencement of each quarter, in order that I may have a fund

with which to meet these little expenditures

I am very respectfully your obt. servt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General.

Hon. J. W. Edmunds
Commr. of General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe N.M. December 14. 1861

Sir

I have to call your attention to that part of the letter of instructions from the Commissioner of the General Land Office, to the Surveyor General of this district, dated August 28. 1854, requiring that "when any city, town, or village, shall be in existence at the passage of the act of 22d July 1854, the claim for the land embraced within the limits of the same, may be made and proved up++ by the corporate authority of the said city, town, or village"

I believe there is not, in all the Mexico an incorporated city, town, or village — There are no town authorities, no one to officially represent the community — Heretofore they have been represented by one or more individuals claiming to represent the grantees, but further than is shown in the petition, their authority does not appear

I submit the question therefore, who shall represent the towns in proving up their title to the lands within their limits? Shall I require the citizens to formally appoint by vote or otherwise, an agent to present & prove up their claim? or shall I allow — as has been the practice in this office — any one without apparent authority, to present & prove the claim?

I am very respectfully your obt. servt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. W. Edmunds
Commr. of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New Mexico
December 18. 1861

Sir

The standard solar compass belonging to this office, has been injured (am informed it was loaned to a deputy surveyor who used it in the field) so that it is entirely unfit for the purpose for which it was intended — There is no instrument maker in this Territory, & it can only be repaired by sending it to New York or Philadelphia — There are certain improvements which should be added to make it a perfect instrument to wit: a Tangent screw on the declination arc, and a telescope I am not advised as to the cost of the repairs & improvements, but suppose it will not exceed fifty dollars — I will therefore under your direction, send in the instrument by the first safe opportunity Please advise me where & to whom to send it

I am very respectfully your obt. Svt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General —

Hon. J. W. Edmunds
Commr. General Land office
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New Mexico December 28th 1861

Sir

Your letter of 22d ultimo, with enclosure, was received on 26th inst. —

Enclosed herewith please find supplemental accounts, as requested, to wit: of

1	John W. Garrison	under his contract of	2d December	1856
	Do	Do	29th July	1857
2	John W Garrison & Joseph A Ivey	Do	26th January	1858
3	Reuben E. Clements	Do	3d October	1857
	Do	Do	18th March	1858
	Do	Do	31st August	1858
4	Robert P. Kelley	Do	5th October	1857
5	Alexander P. Wilbur	Do	3d March	1858

The accounts of J. W. Garrison under his contract of 2d December 1856, & of R. E. Clements under his contract of 3d October 1857 are corrected in accordance with statement in letters from the Commissioner of the General Land Office of date March 10. 1858, June 16. 1858

June 18. 1858 & October 4. 1858 respectively —

There are no duplicates in this office of the accounts of J. Archer for examination of surveys of R. E. Clements, under his contract of 18th March 1858, except for $110. hence the error in the former statement of his account

The balances, as will be seen, due upon the accounts, do not in all cases agree with the statement enclosed in your letter of 22d ult. but I think they will be found upon further examination to be correct

Your attention is called to the fact, that John W. Garretson & Joseph A Ivey reside in Texas & Robert P. Kelley in that part of New Mexico now in possession of Texan troops, & that it is believed they are in rebellion to the U.S. government.

I am very respectfully your obt. Svt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. W. Edmunds
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 1st 1862

Sir

Herewith please find approved accounts for necessary expenses incurred by this office during the fractional quarter ending on the 31st ultimo, to wit:

Ann C. Houghton present of office (whole quarter)	$300.00
Felix Lapin for services as Messenger &c (frac. quarter)	90.22
Edward Miller chair & repairs of furniture	11.00
John A. Clark fuel for office	91.56
do postage bounds	7.65

Please forward drafts in payment as requested on the face of the ~~drafts~~ accounts respectively

I am very respectfully your obt. Svt.
John A. Clark Surveyor General

Hon. J. W. Edmunds
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 1. 1862.

Sir

Enclosed herewith I have the honor to transmit the approved salary accounts of the following employés in this office, for services rendered during the fractional quarter ending on the 31st ultimo to wit:

David J. Miller	translator & chief clerk	$451.09
John M. Clark	draftsman	338.32
Juan C. Sapia	clerk	293.21
James M. Edgar	clerk	270.45

Please forward drafts in payment as requested on the face of the accounts respectively.

I am very respectfully
your obt. servt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. W. Edmunds
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
N. Santa Fe New Mexico
January 1st 1862.

Sir

Enclosed herewith please find statement of accounts approved & transmitted to the General Land Office for the expenditures of this Office, on account of salaries and incidental expenses for the quarter ending on 31st ultimo. It will be seen that the expenditures for the last quarter, exceed by $22.99, the pro rata for the year, allowed for the incidental expenses of this office; but the expenditures for the first quarter on the same account being less than the pro rata, by $93.50, there is still a balance unexpended for the two quarters of $70.51

I am very respectfully
your obt. servt
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. W. Edmunds
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City. D.C.

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 1st 1862

Sir

You will please have transmitted to Messrs Robert Campbell & Co, St. Louis, Missouri, draft for my salary for the quarter ending 31st ultimo

I am very respectfully
your obt. svt.
John A Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. W. Edmunds
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 4 1862

Sir

The rent paid for the office building, now occupied by this office, is altogether too high, & I request permission to remove the office to another building, unless the rent is materially reduced; & permission also, if I find a building to rent on reasonable terms, to take a lease for three or four years.

There is no clock or other time piece belonging to this office, by which to regulate the time of the employés — It is absolutely necessary that there should be one, as without it, much time is lost — I therefore request that I may be permitted to purchase a clock at a cost of not exceeding thirty dollars.

I am very respectfully
your obt servt
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon J. W. Edmunds
Commissioner &c
Washington City. D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico
January 4, 1861.

Sir:

Accompanying please find the Semiannual Returns of public Property in this Office—showing, besides other details, that on hand according to the last return of the Surveyor General, that received and receipted for by the present incumbent, that acquired by purchase during the six months, that inserted in the returns under your instructions of Aug. 2, 1861, and that remaining on hand at the close of the year, and the present condition thereof.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,
John S. Clark.
Surveyor General.

Hon. J. M. Edwards,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor Genral's office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
January 4. 1862.

Sir

The late Surveyor Genral entered into a contract with Thomas Means Esq. Deputy Surveyor, dated July 4th 1861, for the survey of certain private land claims (see contract No 23 of above date) The field notes of the survey of two of said claims have been returned, approved, & copies forwarded, with the plats to the Genral land Office, to wit: "Ortiz Mine grant" and "Location No 2 on Red river of Thomas Cabeza de Baca" — The field notes of three others to wit: claims of John Lamy, Serafin Ramerez and Juan of Mora, have been returned, but not approved— These five surveys, as I learn from Mr. Means, are the only private claims surveyed by him, of those mentioned in his contract; but in lieu of the survey of the remaining private claims mentioned in his contract, he returns the field notes of the subdivision of Township No 11 North, Range 11 East, Townships 15 & 16 North Range 7 East, & of Township 16 North Range 8 East & of the North & East boundary of Township 11 North Range 11 East — These last surveys have been executed by Mr. Means without instructions, so far as appears from the records & files of this office

The Surveyor General by his letter of 28th August last (a copy of which is herewith transmitted) authorized Mr. Means to run the exterior lines, & subdivide Townships 9 & 10 North Ranges 12. 13. & 14 East, but

for what reasons, is not stated in the letter

The work returned by Mr. Means will consume the whole appropriation for surveys in this district, for the fiscal year ending 30th June next, but as stated above, it is not of the character contracted for, it is not in accordance with any instructions received by him from this office - except as to the survey of the private claims above mentioned

I herewith enclose copy of a letter from Mr. Means addressed to me, dated December 30. 1861 giving the reasons for his non-compliance with his contract - I also enclose copy of a letter from A. P. Wilbar Esq. (late Surveyor General) written at the request of Mr. Means, explanatory of his letter to Mr Means of 28th August last

The instructions from the Commissioner of the General Land office, to this office, dated May 28th 1861, require, that the whole appropriation for surveys in this district, for the present fiscal year, should be expended in the survey of private land claims, excepting in so far as should be necessary to connect the public surveys with such private claims - The contract with Mr. Means was made in accordance with said instructions It has therefore seemed to me proper that the Commissioner of the General Land office should decide, whether Mr. Means shall be relieved from his contract, & his work returned as above, received by this office in lieu of that contracted for, & it is herewith submitted for his decision

I am very respectfully
Your obt. servt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon J. W. Edmunds
Commissioner of the General Land office
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 4. 1862

Sir

The field notes returned by Mr. Thomas Means deputy surveyor, of the survey of the private claim confirmed to Jose Serafin Ramirez, under his contract No. 23 of date July 4. 1861, have been rejected by this office, for the reason, that the lines as surveyed, do not conform to the calls of the grant

It seems that there were no special instructions issued to Mr. Means, to govern him in the survey of the private claims mentioned in his contract, and ~~that~~ his only guide, was a

memorandum given him of the points set out in the grants as the boundaries — Those given him of this Ramirez claim are as follows: viz, "Bounded on the N. by the line which extends the league of San Felipe; on the S. by the Cañon del Agua; on the E. by the ojo del Fuerte, with its commons; on the W. the banks of the Rio del Norte".

These boundaries — as will be seen by reference to the report No. 321 1st session 36th Congress, page 210 to 207 — are all wrong — the true boundaries being described in the grant as follows "On the North, to the outlet of the arroyo of Chimas, on the South to the outlet of the arroyo of San Antonio; on the East the little mountain on a line with the [said] Fuerte; and on the West, the one belonging to and styled Sandia", to which an addition is made of one square league on the South (see page 224 same report) —

The "Ranch of San Pedro" from which this claim takes its name, is embraced within these last boundaries, and is entirely outside (as I am informed) of the boundaries first above given. The land marks "Lagunitas de los Indios" & "Cerro de las Tecunditas" mentioned in the additional grant of one league square are to be taken as the extreme limits, within which the square league is to be located, and not as boundaries of the league.

The deputy in locating the claim, has run to all the boundaries mentioned in the memorandum furnished him by this office, but not confining his survey to the land marks given, has taken for the southern limits the extreme points named in the grant of the league square — disregarding entirely the true boundaries of the grant, and including within the survey a large extent of country to which the claimant has no right under the grant.

Mr Mears has addressed me a letter, of this date (a copy of which is herewith enclosed) in which he claims, that he should be paid for his work, because of his being misled by the memorandum furnished him by this office — At his earnest request I herewith enclose a sketch of the survey as made & returned by him, upon which I have marked, in black dotted lines, what I suppose to be, an approximation to the true boundaries of the grant confirmed to Ramirez; the letters A.B.E. representing the points named & the letters C&D the base of the mountains of Sandia, the letters b.c.d.e. the square league —

Mr Mears requests an early decision upon this claim for compensation

I am very respectfully your obt. svt.

John A. Clark

Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds

Commissioner of the General Land Office

Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 4. 1862

Sir

I have to request, that you will forward for the use of this office, a copy of the Decisions of the Interior Department as published by W. W. Lester 1860.

The latest compilation of the land laws, decisions &c belonging to this office, is that published by order of the Senate in 1838.

Very respectfully your obt. servt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. W. Edmunds
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 18. 1862

Francis W. Cain Esq
Surveyor General of Colorado Ter.

Sir

Enclosed herewith please find all the original papers, (with translations of those in Spanish) pertaining to grants of land by the Mexican government in Colorado Territory, to the following named persons, to wit:

No. 4 Charles Beaubien
" 17 C. St. Vrain & C. Vigil
" 41 Pablo Montoya
" 48 Gervacio Nolan

which are transmitted in pursuance of instructions from the Commissioner of the General Land Office dated April 22d. 1861

The grants No 4 & 17, have been confirmed by act of Congress approved June 21. 1860. — No 41 & 48 have been approved by this office, & reported for the action of Congress, but not yet confirmed — see memorandum herewith enclosed

Please sign and return duplicate receipts herewith enclosed

I am very respectfully
your obt. servt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor Generals office
Santa Fe New Mexico February 1. 1842

Sir

Your letter of 26th December was received on 30th ultimo.

In conformity with your instructions, I have corrected upon the original plats of the surveys of the Pueblos of Santo Domingo & San Felipe, the numbering of the Townships, to correspond with the connections actually made with the public surveys, to wit: On the plat of the Pueblo of Santo Domingo the Townships are now numbered 14.15.16, and on the plat of the Pueblo of San Felipe, they are numbered 13.14.15 —

I have also corrected the field notes of both surveys as follows — On page 21 of the field book of the survey of the Pueblo of San Felipe, after the figures "14" in 6th line, I placed an asterisk, & on the margin the reference "see note page 37" — On page 37 of the same book I made the following note "the connection of the boundary line of the Pueblo of "San Felipe, with the public surveys, is erroneously stated (on page 21) "the connection is made with the line between Townships 14 & 15 instead "of 13 & 14, and the plat has been corrected to conform to the fact

"John A. Clark Surveyor General

"See letter of Commissioner of General Land Office December 26. 1841."

On page 34 of the book of field notes of the survey of the Pueblo of Santo Domingo, after the letter "t" at the end of the 13th line, I placed an asterisk, and on the margin of the same page this reference "see note on page 45" — On page 45 of the same book I made the following note — "the connection of the boundary "line of the Pueblo of Santo Domingo with the public surveys, is "erroneously stated — the connection is with the line between "Townships 14 & 15, instead of 13 & 14, as stated on page 34 — the "plat has been corrected to correspond with the fact.

"John A Clark Surveyor General

"See letter of Comm: General Land Office December 26. 1841"

There is no copy of the patent certificates accompanying the plats of the above Pueblos, on file in this office

Very respectfully your obt. Svt.
John A Clark Surveyor General

Hon. J. W. Edmunds
Commissioner of the General Land office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
February 6th 1862

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th ultimo. Juan N. Lopez, being a volunteer in the army, I may be unable, immediately, to secure his services to accompany me to Mora, but at the earliest day possible, I will proceed according to your instructions, and examine further, the question of boundary of the Mora claim.

I am surprised at the refusal of the Commissioner to audit the account of Mr. John W. Clark, for expenses incurred by him, in making the examination under my direction, in relation to the boundary of this claim, & reported in my letter to the Commissioner of 30th November — The letter of the Commissioner to my predecessor dated 16th September 1859, referred to in your letter of 4th ult., establishes a rule in relation to the taking of testimony, to serve as a guide to the Deputy in making his survey — The testimony taken by Mr. Clark, was taken for the purpose of testing the accuracy of the survey already made & returned, but not approved. Mr. Means (the Deputy Surveyor) had returned to the field under my instructions, to establish corners & to run a portion of the boundary in the mountains, which he had shown no sufficient reason for not running; and he was in the field, when Mr. Clark received his instructions, but his original returns remained in this office. The examination made by Mr. Clark was precisely of the character which I am now directed to make in person, & because the result is unsatisfactory, furnishes no good reason why his expenses should not be paid — He went to Mora by my direction, to establish a fact necessary to enable me to decide upon the correctness of the survey, which had been returned; and not to take testimony preliminary to the survey.

The Commissioner upon a reconsideration of the matter I trust will reverse his decision, & order the account of Mr. Clark to be audited & allowed.

I am very respectfully your obt. Svt.
John A. Clark Surveyor General

Hon J. M. Edmunds
Commissioner &c
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New Mexico
February 15th 1862

Sir

I do not find on file in this office, the decision of the Surveyor General, in the private claim confirmed to John Scolley et al, by act of congress, approved June 21. 1860

There is a paper on file, which seems to be a rough draft of the decision, but it is not certified, & does not agree with the printed copy, contained in the report of the Committee on private land claims, No 321 1st Session 36th Congress, & therefore I suppose it is not the original decision

I am having a complete record made, of the proceedings in all the claims approved by this office; and for this purpose, I have to request, that you will cause to be sent to me a copy of the decision of the Surveyor General in the above case, on file in the General Land office

I am very respectfully your obt. Servt
John A Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. W. Edmunds
Commissioner General Land office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office.
Santa Fe New Mexico
February 22nd 1862.

Hon Joab Houghton.
Register of U.S. Land Office. "Sir."

I herewith transmit to you the Descriptive Lists of the following Townships viz

Township.	13 North.	Ranges	9. 22. 23. 26. 27. 29. 30. 31. 32. and 33	East of P. Meridian
"	14	"	"	8. 9. 23. 25. 26. 30. 31. and 32 -- " " " "
"	15	"	"	9. 24. 25. 26. 27. and 32 - - - - - " " " "
"	17	"	"	5. and 6 - - - - - - - - - - - " " " "
"	18	"	"	20 - - - - - - - - - - " " " "
"	19	"	"	4. 5. and 6 - - - - - - " " " "
"	20	"	"	3. 4. " 5 - - - - - " " " "

I am very respectfully
Your Obt. Servt
John A. Clark
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
February 22. 1862

Sir

I have the honor to transmit herewith the receipt of the Register of the Land office at Santa Fe, for "Description lists" of thirty three townships in his District

Very respectfully your obt. Svt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General.

Hon J. W. Edmunds
Commissioner of the General Land office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
February 22. 1862

Sir

I herewith enclose account of Felis Lopez for 25 Burro loads grass, amounting to $7.81 – Please forward draft as directed on the face of the account

Very respectfully your obt. Svt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. W. Edmunds
Commissioner of General Land office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
February 22d. 1862

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt on 20th inst., of "Circulars to Registers and Receivers and Surveyor General", dated January 6th 1862, from the Commissioner of the General Land office; together with a package of blank oaths of allegiance

I will strictly observe these instructions, and promptly report any case which may arise in this office requiring your interposition

I am respectfully your
obt. Svt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. W. Edmunds
Commissioner of General Land office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New Mexico
March 1. 1862

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 3d ultimo requesting a copy of the field notes of the survey of private claims confirmed to the Town of Mora, Jose Serafino Ramirez & John Lamy, returned to this office by Thomas Moran Deputy Surveyor, but not approved

I herewith enclose copy of the field notes as requested

I am very respectfully
your obt. svt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon J. W. Edmunds
Commissioner of the General Land office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New Mexico
March 1st 1862

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th January, directing that at the close of the current quarter the force be reduced in this office to the chief clerk & draughtsman.

Your instructions will be carried out in this as in the other matters referred to in the same letter

I am very respectfully your obt. svt.
John A Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. W. Edmunds
Commissioner of General Land office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
March 1. 1862.

Sir.

Enclosed you will find approved bill of Messrs Spiegelberg Bros. for a box of Candles for the use of this office.

Please cause a draft in payment thereof to be forwarded as per request on the face of the Account.

It may be proper to observe that the difference in price between the bill last sent up, and the present one is occasioned not only by the material rise in the price of the article hereaway but also by the difference between the quality of the former article and that of the present.

Very respectfully
Your Obt Servt
John A Clark
Surveyor General

Hon J M Edmonds
Commissioner Genl Land Office
Washington D.C.

Surveyor Generals Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
March 3rd 1862.

Sir.

I am directed by the Surveyor General John A Clark to transmit to the General Land Office the approved accounts of the following employees in this Office for their services respectively up to this date in the current fiscal quarter, and to request that the drafts to be issued in payment thereof be disposed of as requested on the faces of the accounts; viz.

David J. Miller –	Translator	$344.44
Juan C. Sapia	Clerk	223.89
James M Edgar	Clerk	206.66
Felis Sapia	Messenger & Guard	68.89

Very respectfully
Your Obt Servt
David J Miller
Translator & C.C.

Hon J M Edmonds
Commissioner Genl Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

For letters written between March 3 and August 8 see page 422 et seq.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
August 8, 1862.

Sir:—

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th of May last in relation to the survey of the "town of Mora" grant; instructing me to take further proofs respecting the location of the boundary named in the grant called "Aguage de la Yegua."

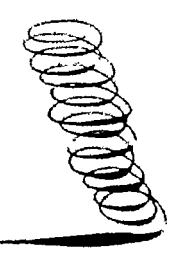
I enclose herewith copies of the proofs taken by me to which reference is made in my letter of April 8th last, and which appear to me to be conclusive as to the location of the calls of the grant in question. As some little time must necessarily elapse before it will be possible for me to carry out your instructions in this matter, I submit these proofs for your consideration. The witnesses were called by me without notice, and, with one or two exceptions, testified before being informed of my object in taking their depositions. They are reputed to be men of integrity and qualified to testify.

In making the personal examination required by your instructions it will be necessary—owing to the disturbed state of the country and the presence of hostile Indians in the neighborhood of the "Aguage de la Yegua"—for me to have a strong military escort; and, as I cannot enter upon the examination before I can receive, by the course of mail, your instructions after considering the enclosed proofs, I shall await your further instructions before moving in the matter.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark.
Surveyor General.

Hon. Wm. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington, D.C.



Surveyor General's office Santa Fe New Mexico
August 7th 1862

Sir I am in receipt of your letter of 24th May last, advising me of the appropriations for surveying &c in this district, & for the expenses of this office, for the fiscal year ending on 30th June 1863 — I shall of course be governed by your instructions contained in the same letter—in the expenditure of these several appropriations

I am respectfully your
Obt. Svt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. W. Edmunds
Comm'r Genl Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's Office, Santa Fe, New Mexico
August 7. 1862

Sir

By your letter of 24th of May last, I am requested to furnish on or before the 1st instant, the estimates for the surveying service in this district, for the fiscal year, ending June 30 1864. Returning yesterday to my post, as advised in my letter of this date, I herewith submit the estimate as requested

For public surveys — continuing the survey of base meridian, boundaries and subdivisional lines	$15,000.
For Salary of Surveyor General	3,000
" " Translator & chief clerk	2,000
" " Draughtsman & computer	1,750
" " copying clerk	1,500
" " messenger & watchman	400
" fuel, office rent, stationary & contingent expenses	2,500
	$16,000

I am respectfully your obt servt
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Comr Genl Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
August 7, 1862.

Sir.—

After a journey of thirty-seven days from Leavenworth City I arrived here on the 6th instant. I enclose herewith statements from David H. Miller Translator and Chief Clerk, and from John M. Clark, Draughtsman (two of whom I found on my return at their respective posts in discharge of their duties) as parts of the history of the times in connection with this Office. It will be seen by the statement of Mr. Miller that he remained in Santa Fe occupying a room adjoining the Translator's Office during the time of the occupation of the Office building by the Texans, and was mainly instrumental in preserving the archives left here and the books and other property belonging to the United States. There seems to have been no wanton destruction of anything pertaining to the Office. The missing stationery was I suppose used by the Texans. The articles of

furniture abstracted (most of which have been recovered) were removed from the Office to other places, for the accommodation probably of the officers of the Texan forces. It is certainly a most remarkable circumstance that the cases containing the ancient archives relating to grants of land in this Territory — but not yet brought before the Surveyor General for his action — were left untouched and the keys left in the possession of Mr. Miller.

In view of the prudent and excellent conduct of Mr. Miller during this trying season I have certified his salary accounts for the whole period, which I trust will be approved by you. On the 20th of May he resumed his duties in the Office, and has continued to perform them. John M. Clark, Draughtsman, who, as I informed you in my letter of 1st April last, was left in charge of the records removed to Fort Union, as soon as it seemed to him safe to return them to Santa Fé, had them brought back, and on the 20th of May he resumed his duties in the office.

I find great difficulty in procuring a building suitable for an Office, but in a few days shall remove to rooms which I will occupy until a suitable building can be procured.

I am very respectfully
Your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Hon. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico.
August 7, 1862.

Dear General.—

I address you, at your request, the following memorandum letter covering the time that this office was occupied by the enemy when he was in possession of this capital.

You left here on the 3rd of March on the evacuation of our troops. It was not till the 10th that any of the enemy entered the city. On that day a party of eleven came in. None of them came round to the Office and the next morning I left town in company with another gentleman (Mr. Gaige), intending to stay over night, leaving the doors of the Office locked, windows fastened, &c., and taking the keys of the desks, &c., with me. On returning I found that they had opened the windows and entered the office. Immediately that it was known I had returned an officer came to my quarters adjoining the Translator's room, and demanded the keys of the doors of the Office Building, which of course I delivered to him.

On taking possession of the Office the officers who installed themselves therein assured me at my request that nothing in the building whether public or private property, should be injured or carried away. They did not then or at any time demand of me the keys belonging to the desks containing the archives, &c, left by you in the Office and in my charge, consisting of papers belonging to land claims not acted on, records, registers, stationery, &c, nor did they have access to any desk or bureau which had a key to it.

On the 13th about seventy-five more Texans arrived, when others took up their quarters in this building; and in a few days more their number had increased to at least two hundred, and then every public building in the city had been taken possession of and occupied by them. This office and premises were literally filled with officers and men, horses, vehicles, &c. The Surveyor General's Office and the Translator's room were used as a quartermaster's office. The other rooms were filled with men and baggage. The little room in the plaza was made a kitchen of, and the corral and stables were filled with animals. The benches, &c, were taken from the Supreme Court room opposite the Office and placed in our plaza, the court-house being appropriated as a commissary storehouse.

The enemy evacuated the city and consequently vacated these premises April 8th. I immediately had the latter cleaned up of the accumulated rubbish and filth, and swept out; but no sooner had I done so than a large lot of paroled prisoners arrived here from Fort Union. These (Major Jordan, who had been left behind as surgeon for the wounded and who informed me he was in command here till the arrival of our troops, assigned to quarters in this Office, and soon afterwards moved into it himself. He and his men and animals occupied the premises until the arrival of the troops, and thereafter went out of the country with the prisoners paroled and able to travel. I and the Draughtsman, Mr. Clark, who had in the meantime arrived (on the 11th of April) again cleaned up the premises. The archives you had taken with you and deposited for safe keeping at Fort Union arrived on the 20th of May, and were placed in their proper places as before the invasion. Mr. Clark and I resumed our active duties.

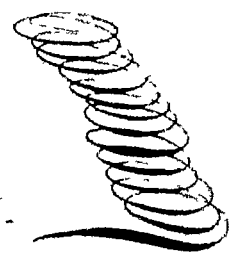
While the enemy were here I endeavored to keep my eye on the furniture, &c, and see how the assurances they had given me as to its safety would be realized. I very rarely left my room at all—indeed, their cannon had been upon the public plaza some few days before. I went out to see it. Up to about the morning they left the city nearly all the furniture was still in the Office; but it was found after they had gone that considerable of it was missing. I immediately set about recovering it and succeeded in gathering the

most of it, and subsequently Mr. Clark and I on exploring the city, found and returned to the Office this more found, principally in possession of females, where the Texan paramours had left it. The annual returns of property for June 30th will show what of the stationery and other public property was destroyed or taken away and not recovered.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Saml. C. Miller
Translator.

Gen. John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.
Present.



Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
August 7th, 1862.

Sir.

The more important of the archives of this Office having been removed to Fort Union for safe keeping during the temporary occupation of this city by the rebel forces under Genl Sibley, and having been instructed by you to assume full charge of the same during your proposed absence in the States, I have the honor to submit the following report of my operations in pursuance of those instructions.

Immediately upon the arrival at Fort Union of the train from Santa Fé in which you had secured their transportation, the boxes containing these archives were, by the orders of Capt. McFerran, transferred to a convenient store room in a secure portion of the fort, and there taken in charge temporarily by the military authorities.

Shortly after an important expedition was planned, by which most of the troops collected at the post were to be led against the enemy by Col. Slough of Colorado, and at his request I was kept busily employed in compiling maps of the country through which the troops were expected to pass.

When the expedition finally started I accompanied it, believing that I might be able to render as efficient service in that manner as I could have done by remaining at Fort Union.

I remained with the troops in the field until we received information that the enemy had evacuated Santa Fé, when I immediately hurried forward hoping to assist in saving the property of the Office which you had been forced to leave behind you.

I arrived in Santa Fé on the 11th of April, and found that the Translator, Mr. Miller, though suffering from a severe illness during our absence, had still been able to preserve untouched the papers and documents remaining in his charge, though he had been powerless to prevent depredations upon the property.

Nearly all of the furniture of the Office and much of the stationery had been abstracted. We at once set about the means of its recovery, and, as you will observe from the "property return" and from the report of Mr. Miller, we met with much better success than under the circumstances would have been deemed probable.

Our troops having succeeded in driving the invaders from the Territory and a peace having been conquered which all believed would prove a permanent one, it seemed proper that the archives of this Office should be restored to their accustomed places, and as far as was possible in your absence the Office again opened for the public accommodation.

Accordingly I wrote to Capt. McFerran desiring him to send them to me at Santa Fé by the first Government transportation that should be available, provided the conductor of the same should be a person to whom he could safely entrust documents of so much importance.

On the 20th of May the archives arrived safely in charge of one of the most trusty employees of the Quartermaster's department.

Upon examination it was found that none were injured or missing; and from the day of their receipt Mr. Miller and myself resumed the usual routine of our office duties, which we have continued uninterruptedly until the present time.

Before closing I wish to express the sense of obligation under which I feel for the numerous acts of kindness shown by Captain J. C. McFerran. In the midst of his most arduous duties as acting Chief Quartermaster of this department he found time to provide for the reception of the archives in one of the most convenient and secure storerooms of the fort, and also to personally attend to the safety of their transportation when it was deemed advisable to remove them.

I have the honor to remain, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

John A. Clark.

To John A. Clark,
Surveyor General,
Santa Fé, New Mexico.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
August 8, 1862.

Sir:

In consequence of the rejection of a portion of the surveys returned by deputy surveyor Thomas Moore, under his contract with this Office

dated July 4, 1861, and of his failure to execute the survey of several of the private grants in accordance with his contract, substituting other work, which has also been rejected, there yet remains to be done nearly one half of the work covered by his contract.

By the terms of the contract the returns are to be made to this office by the first of January last. Since the expiration of the time limited, within which to make his returns, the act of Congress approved May 30, 1862, entitled "An act to reduce the expenses of the survey and sale of the public lands in the United States," has been passed, and I submit for your consideration and decision the question of extending the time of making and returning the surveys under his contract.

I am respectfully your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Hon. J.M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
August 8, 1862.

Sir:

Your letter of instructions dated June 7th last, with a copy of the National Intelligencer containing a copy of the act of Congress approved May 30, 1862, entitled "An act to reduce the expenses of the survey and sale of the public lands in the United States," has been received

I am very respectfully your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General New Mexico.

Hon. J.M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
August 8, 1862.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 4th June last, calling my attention to the passage of an act of Congress, approved

June 2, 1862, entitled "An act for the survey of grants or claims of land." Your instructions contained in the same letter, shall be fully carried out.

I am very respectfully your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General of New Mexico.

Hon. S. W. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
August 8, 1862.

Sir.—

Accompanying please find the approved salary and incidental expense accounts created in this Office during the fractional quarter ending March 31 and the full quarter ending June 30, 1862, together with a tabular statement of all the expenditures in the Office for the six months ending on the 30th of June, 1862:

Ann C. Houghton, for rent	$300.00
David J. Miller, translator	155.56
do	500.00
John W. Clark, draughtsman	375.00
Ann C. Houghton, for rent	300.00
John A. Clark, for stationery	32.87

I am respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Hon. S. W. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Washington City, D.C.,
April 1, 1862.

Sir.—

On the 2d ultimo received Donaldson, then commanding the military district of Santa Fé, New Mexico, informed me that, having no adequate force

to meet the Texans, who were reported approaching in force towards Santa Fe, he should on the following morning dispatch all commissary and other stores belonging to the Government, in Santa Fe, to Fort Union, and that on the 3rd or 4th ultimo he would order all troops stationed at Santa Fe to march to the same place. Upon the evacuation of Santa Fe by our forces there was no obstacle to its occupation by the Texans, whose advance guard was reported to be within forty miles. I proceeded therefore at once to pack up in boxes the original fieldnotes, maps, copies of fieldnotes and other records of the Surveyor General's Office, and, being furnished by Col. Donaldson with transportation sufficient for the purpose, I sent the boxes (three in number) to Fort Union for safe keeping. On the 3rd ultimo I directed all the employés in the Office, except the Draughtsman, to make up their accounts to that day, which was done, and the accounts were certified to by me and directed to be sent to the Commissioner of the General Land-office. The Office building, with the furniture, books and stationery belonging to the Office I placed in charge of Mr. David S. Miller, late Translator and Chief Clerk. I deposited the two compasses belonging to the United States in the safe of the Receiver of Public Monies at Santa Fe. On the same day (3rd of March) I left Santa Fe for Fort Union. On Thursday (5th of March) the three boxes containing the archives of the Office as above recited left Fort Union, and on the 9th were placed within the defences at the Fort in charge of the quartermaster of the post.

Mr. John M Clark (Draughtsman in the Surveyor General's Office) accompanied the records from Santa Fe to Fort Union, and I instructed him before leaving Fort Union to take them in charge in case it should be necessary, for any reason, to remove them from the fort.

After the battle of Valverde, fought near Fort Craig on 21st February, the Texans, about equal in number to the entire United States forces in the department, moved up the Rio Grande, and were reported on 2d March at and in the vicinity of Albuquerque, about equidistant between Fort Union and Fort Craig — the two points where our forces were concentrated — thus dividing Colonel Canby's command and cutting off all communication between the Colonel and the troops at Fort Union and endangering the safety of our whole force. Acting under the advice of Governor Connelly, Col. Collins, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, and other officers of the Territory, I left Fort Union on the 12th ultimo for this city, for the purpose of reporting to the President the condition of affairs and of urging the reinforcement at once of our army in New Mexico. Before my arrival orders had been issued for the marching of six regiments with two batteries of artillery to Fort Union, and I have little doubt that with these additional forces the Texan rebels will be driven from New Mexico within the next ninety days, and the authority of the United

States Government fully reëstablished throughout the Territory.
I am very respectfully your obedient Servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General of New Mexico.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Washington, April 1, 1862.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City

Sir.— In my letter of this date I have reported to you my reasons for leaving Santa Fé and for removing the archives of the Surveyor General's Office of New Mexico to Fort Union. I felt though compelled to abandon Santa Fé, yet technically I am now absent from my office without leave. I have therefore to request that leave of absence be granted to me until the 1st of July next, by which time I hope the authority of the Government will be reëstablished in every part of New Mexico.

I am very respectfully your obedient servant.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General.

Washington, April 5, 1862.

Sir.—

In accordance with instructions contained in your letter of I have taken further testimony respecting the boundaries of the Moro town grant.

Albino Chacon of Rio Arriba county, one of the original grantees, swears that he was familiar with the country and with the boundaries named in the grants at the time the concession was made, and describes fully the place which Aguaje de la Yegua the point named as the east boundary. His location of this point agrees with the return of Mr. Meard. I also examined six other witnesses, all residents of the town of Moro, all of whom agree in stating that there is but one place in the vicinity of the town of Moro called "Aguaje de la Yegua," and they locate this place about fifty miles in a southeastern

direction from the town of Moro, coinciding in this with Chacon and with all the witnesses examined except Lopez.

I have also made inquiry of many persons familiar with the country in the neighborhood of Moro, and have been unable to find a single person to corroborate the statement of Lopez as to the existence of any other place known as the Agua de la Yegua but the one described by Mr. Means in his survey.

I am therefore convinced that Lopez was mistaken in his statement — that there is but the one place in that region of country known as the Agua de la Yegua, and that Mr. Means made this place the initial point in his survey of the Moro grant.

I am very respectfully your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General New Mexico.

Hon. Jno. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Leavenworth, Kansas, June 19, 1862.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir.— I left Freeport, Illinois, on my return to New Mexico, on the 5th instant, was unavoidably detained in St. Louis two days and in Kansas City five days, arriving here on Monday, 16th instant. I may be detained here several days longer, in consequence of reports received by the Commanding officer of that department, that a rebel force from Texas is on or near the Santa Fé road with the purpose of cutting off the Government and other trains and of capturing forts Wise and Larned. If these reports should prove true it may compel me to go to army of Kansas, and in any event I cannot now reach Santa Fé before the latter part of July or first days of August. My leave of absence expired on 6th instant. I did not apply to have it extended because, leaving on the 5th, I supposed I should arrive at Santa Fé so soon after its expiration that it would not be necessary. But I have now to request that it may be extended sixty days from the 6th instant, to cover the time which may be consumed in reaching Santa Fé.

I am very respectfully your obedient servant

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General of New Mexico.

Leavenworth City, June 30, 1862.

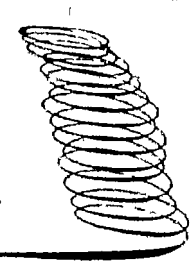
Sir—

You will please have transmitted the Treasury Warrants for my Salary as Surveyor General of New Mexico, for the Quarter ending this day, to James Mitchell, Esq., Freeport, Illinois.

I am very respectfully your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General of New Mexico.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land office,
Washington City, D. C.



Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico.
August 16, 1862.

Sir—

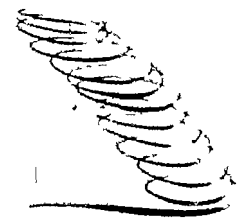
Herewith please receive the transcripts of the fieldnotes of the survey of the private land claims of Bishop John Lamy, together with the account of Thomas Means, deputy surveyor, for surveying the claim—both enclosures duly certified.

I forward also by this mail, separately, the corresponding plats of the survey, in duplicate, one of them bearing the official certificate, and all of which are duly approved and certified.

I am very respectfully your obedient servant,

John A. Clark, Surveyor General.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land office,
Washington City, D. C.



Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico
August 16, 1862.

Sir—

Enclosed I forward to the General Land office my semi-annual Returns of Property remaining in this Office and belonging to the United States.

Respectfully, your obedient Servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land office,
Washington City, D. C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
August 18, 1862.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir.— I overlooked, and did not acknowledge, at the proper time, the receipt of your circular letter of 2nd June last, in relation to the transmission of township plats to the District Land Offices, &c. I received said circular on the 6th instant on my return to Santa Fé.

I am, very respectfully, your obt. servt.
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, N.M., Aug. 23, 1862.

Sir.—

The Navajo and Apache Indians continue their depredations throughout the Territory. Outside of the towns there is absolutely no safety for persons or property.

Under this condition of things, unless it should become necessary in order to connect the surveys of private land claims with the public surveys in cases where the claimants comply with the law lately enacted by Congress requiring a deposite of the estimated cost of such survey, I shall not enter into any contracts for the survey of the public lands in this district during the present season.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, N.M., Aug. 23, 1862.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir.— I enclose herewith the certified account of Mrs. Anna C. Houghton for rent of Office for the fractional

Quarter ending 19th instant, amounting to one hundred and sixty-three $\frac{64}{100}$ dollars. Please send the draft as directed on the account.

I have rented of Bishop John Lamy, at a rental of thirty-five dollars per month, rooms to which I removed this Office on the 19th instant. The rooms, except the general office or court room, are on the second floor of an adobe building, situated near the principal Catholic church, about three hundred yards east of the Plaza. The court room or general office is on the ground floor of the same building. The building, being out of the business part of the town, is not convenient for a public office, but will answer the purpose until I can procure a suitable one at a reasonable rent.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

John S. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
August 23, 1862.

Sir:

Enclosed I forward the account for money expended by me in removing to and fitting up the Office now occupied. I have taken the receipts of the parties paid for the services or articles stated in the account, and send them accompanying as vouchers.

Please have the draft to be issued forwarded as requested on the face of the account.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John S. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Hon. S. H. Edmunds,
Commissioner Genl. Land Office,
Washington City, D. C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico
August 31, 1862

Sir:

I enclose herewith the account of Felix Tafoya for his services as Messenger in this Office from the 16th to the 31st instant, both inclusive, amounting to $22.26.

I have discharged Tafoya, and have employed in his place Esquinio Otero. He is married, and will assist in copying in the office

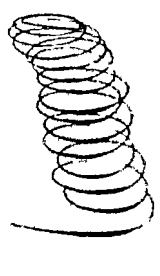
when not otherwise employed. I have made the change for this reason.

I enclose also two accounts in my favor, to wit:—one of $10.50 for freight paid by me on two boxes of stationery from Kansas City to Santa Fe—being the same for which an account was forwarded with my letter of the 8th instant—and one for four dollars paid by me for a protractor and parallel ruler, to replace those taken by the Texans. Vouchers for both payments I herewith enclose in the accounts. Please forward the drafts as directed. I am under the necessity of purchasing an entire set of drawing instruments, to replace those taken away or destroyed during the occupation of the Office by the Texans.

I am, very respectfully, your obt. servant,

John A. Clark, Surveyor General.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land office,
Washington City, D.C.



Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
August 30, 1862.

Hon J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of General Land office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:—I have to acknowledge the receipt, on the 26th instant, of your letter of 31st ultimo.

Upon receipt of your letter I examined the old Government building ("Palacio") as directed, and found the whole building occupied by the Territorial officers, except the two rooms assigned lately to the Register and Receiver of the Land office. The Receiver having been designated as a public depository the rooms occupied by him are barely sufficient for the purpose. In accordance with your instructions I applied to the Governor for rooms in the Palace, and was informed by him that it would be impossible to vacate any of the rooms occupied as above

There is an adobe building extending westwardly—separated by a narrow street—from the Palacio, which also belongs to the Government. It is now occupied by laundresses attached to the army, and is in possession, except three rooms in the eastern end, of the military. By an expenditure of say $500 a comfortable office could be fitted up in this building. The east end of the building is now occupied by the post office. An order from the War Department will have to be obtained before it could be diverted from its present use.

I enclose herewith a plat, as requested, of the Palacio, mark-

ed "A," and a sketch of a section of the city surrounding the plaza showing the relative positions of the public buildings, and also the position of the building now occupied by this Office, marked "B," and also a plat of the old adobe building, occupied by the laundresses, marked "C." The plat of the Palacio is drawn from measurements made on the outside of the building, and of as many of the rooms as I had access to. The same is true of the plat of the old building west, and, although not strictly correct, are sufficiently so for the purposes for which they are designed. The sketch of that section of the city in the vicinity of the plaza is drawn without the use of instruments on the ground and without measurements, and is therefore not a strictly accurate map of that portion of Santa Fé. There is no plat of Santa Fé in existence.

The translator in this Office is not qualified to perform the duties of draughtsman. If a translator could be obtained who should possess the requisite qualifications he could for the present and until active operations in the field shall be resumed perform the duties now performed by that officer with those of the draughtsman — but until such person is found the public interest requires that both shall be retained in this office.

I fully appreciate the necessity of practising the strictest economy in the administration of this Office, and shall use every means to that end compatible with the public interest.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office, Santa Fé, New Mexico,
September 10, 1862.

Sir. — Enclosed I forward my account for $6.50, voucher accompanying same, being for cash advanced by me for a drawing board and rulers, which were required by the Draughtsman of this Office. Please cause the draft to issue in settlement of the account to be forwarded to me at this city, as requested on the face of the account.

I am, very respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General

Hon. Jno. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City,
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico September 13. 1862

Hon. J. W. Edmunds
Commr. of General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Sir

In further compliance with your instructions of 22d April 1861, On the 18th of January last, I transmitted to the Surveyor General of Colorado, all of the original documents on file in this office in the following private land claims, (retaining exact copies thereof), to wit:

No 4 Charles Beaubien
" 48 Gervacio Nolan
" 17 Ceran St. Vrain &
Cornelio Vigil
" 41 Pablo Montoya [Claim is not in Col.]

The above claims are believed to be in Colorado Territory, but it is possible, when the boundary line shall be run between this Territory and Colorado, some of them may be found to be partly in this Mexico

I herewith enclose receipts signed by the Chief Clerk in the Surveyor General's office of Colorado for the papers as above

I am very respectfully your obt. Servt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
September 2nd, 1862

Sir.—

I forward enclosed the account of my expenditures for fuel for the Office up to this date.—$11.25.

Please have the draft issued in settlement thereof, and forwarded to me at this place, as requested on the account.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient Servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Hon. J. W. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico.
September 29, 1862.

Sir:

I have this day mailed to your address, in four packages, my Annual Report, with accompanying documents A, B, C, D, E, F, G and H, all in triplicate, except A, B and C. I send but two copies of document A, for the reason stated in my letter of this date. In compliance with your instructions of May 24, 1862, I enclose but one copy of document B, and I also send but one copy of document C.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. L. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
September 29, 1862

Sir:—

In examining the maps accompanying my Annual Report (which I this day mail to you) I found, when too late to correct the error, that some of the township lines are incorrectly drawn, showing an irregularity in the size of the townships which does not exist. This part of the map was copied from the lithographed map accompanying the report of last year, which, as will be seen upon examination, is, in this respect, erroneous.

Because of the error as above I have forwarded but two of the maps prepared to accompany my report. These will furnish the information required for the present. The other—which I desire may be the one lithographed—I will forward as soon as the draughtsman can complete it.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Hon. L. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
October 1st 1860

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt yesterday, of your two letters, dated respectively 2d & 12th September

David J. Miller, translator &c is engaged in translating the papers relating to a Spanish land grant, on file in this office, which he will complete in two or three days. John M. Clark, draughtsman, is at work upon the corrected map of the territory, to accompany my annual report — noticed in my letter of 29th ultimo

These are the only remaining clerks in this office — As soon as they shall have completed the work upon which they are respectively employed as above, I shall discharge them in compliance with your instructions

There being no room in the "Palacio" obtainable, for the use of this office, I cannot comply with the instructions in your letter of 2d ult, directing me to remove the archives &c

I expect to obtain a reduction of rent for the quarters I now occupy, by surrendering that part now occupied by the translator and draughtsman, and in all respects, I shall endeavor to economize the office expenditures & bring them within the smallest possible compass

The Commissioner is aware, that by the act of 28 July 1854, the Surveyor General of this district, is required to investigate & report upon, all claims to land in this Territory, under the laws, usages and customs, of Spain and Mexico; and to enable him to execute this provision of the law, a translator has been provided, from the organization of the office up to this ~~present~~ time

In view of the condition of things here and of the state of the country, it is proper, that the clerks in this office should be discharged, but to enable me to carry out the provision of the law above referred to, it will be necessary to employ a translator, from time to time, as cases may be brought up for investigation; and I request that I may be authorized to employ one, whenever the public service may require it — The services of a draughtsman will also occasionally be required, & I request that authority may be given me to employ one temporarily whenever I shall find it necessary —

I am very respectfully your obt. Svt.
Wm. A. Clark Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr of Genl Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
October 1st 1862

Sir

I have to request, that the warrant, in payment of my salary as Surveyor General of New Mexico, for the quarter ending yesterday, be drawn on the assistant Treasurer New York, and transmitted to Messrs Robert Campbell & Co. St. Louis Missouri

I am very respectfully your obt. Svt.
John A Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. W. Edmunds
Commr. Genl Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
October 4th 1862

Sir

Enclosed herewith please find approved salary accounts as follows viz:

David J. Miller, translator for qr. ending 30th Sept. 1862	$500.00
do do for fl. qr. 1st to 4th October inclusive	21.73
John M. Clark draughtsman qr. ending 30th Sept. 1862	375.00
Apolonio Pino y Ortiz messr. fl. qr. do do	32.61

Also approved account of
Augustine Hunt, postage to 30th Sept. 1862 8.98

Also a tabular statement of approved accounts for the quarter ending 30th September 1862

Very respectfully your obt. servt.
John A Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. W. Edmunds
Commr. General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
October 9. 1862

Sir

Enclosed herewith please find, sent account of John Lamy for fractional quarter ending 30th September last, amounting to $47.93, and my account for twenty five

cents, for office furniture, both of which are approved by me

I am respectfully your obt. svt

John A. Clark Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
November 8. 1862

Sir

Your letter of the 6th ultimo, in relation to the survey of the "Mora" grant, was received on the 29th

In making a more thorough personal examination of the field notes of the survey of the claim referred to, than I had before made, preparatory to a compliance with your instructions, I discovered the following error or discrepancy between the survey of Mr. Means & the adjoining survey, which had been overlooked by the draughtsman, viz:

Mr. Means reports that at 5 miles 10 chs. 22 lks. North from the initial point of his survey, he intersected the 4th correction line, 23.27 chains East of ¼ section corner, in section 32 Township 17 N. Range 21. East, and that at 29 miles 11 chs. 16 lks. he intersected the 5th correction line 23.16 chains East of ¼ section corner, in section 32 T. 21 N. R. 21. E.

According to the connections with the 4th correction line reported by Pelham & Clements in their survey of Las Vegas grant Means' connection with the same line should be at 5 miles 26 chs. 68 lks. — 6 links West of corner to sections 31 & 32 T. 17 N. R. 21. E. — or 16.46 chains North & 63.33 chains West of the point of intersection reported by him

In the survey of Las Vegas there are five connections with the public surveys viz: two with the Guide meridian, between Ranges 19 & 20 East, — one with the 4th correction line T. 17 N. R. 20 E. — one with the line between Ts 17 & 18 N. R. 19 & one with the Range line between Ranges 18 & 19 E. & 18 N. — Two of these were reported by Pelham & Clements, as having been made during the progress of the survey, the other three are reported as having been made by them when they returned to the field for that purpose, under instructions from this Office — I enclose herewith a sketch

showing three of the connections with the public surveys made by Pelham & Clements in the survey of the grant of Las Vegas; "also the connection (at the Aguage de la Yegua) between Las Vegas & the Mora surveys, & also the point reported by Mr. Means as his first connection with the public surveys

Mr. Means cannot now, on account of the danger from hostile Indians, return to the field & make the necessary examination to explain the discrepancy between the two surveys, or correct his work. His survey, with this exception, seems to be correct, but until the difference between the two surveys is reconciled, I cannot approve of Mr. Means' survey or of his account, except as to the amount of work reported to have been done. I have made out & herewith enclose an account for the survey as reported, and in certifying, have qualified my certificate as above As the survey is not approved I do not return a transcript of the field notes, nor plats of the survey.

Mr. Means insists that the discrepancy between the two surveys, is occasioned by errors in Pelham & Clements' survey of Las Vegas, & is anxious to return to the field & make the examination to prove it, but he cannot now do so without an armed escort, sufficiently strong to repel any probable attack from the Indians — He is poor & much in want of money — If you can relieve him by advancing a portion of his account, I trust that under the circumstances you will do so

I would not have troubled you with these details, if Mr. Means could have returned to the field, but regarding it as an exceptional case, & one of considerable hardship, I place the whole matter before you, that you may be enabled to act understandingly in the premises —

I am very respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. W. Edmunds
Commr. General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
November 14 1862.

Sir

I have this day dispatched by mail to your address, one package, containing corrected map of New Mexico, to accompany my annual report.

From information received since I forwarded the two copies of the map with my annual report, I have been enabled to note many interesting objects on the copy now sent, which will not be found on those, and have also corrected the position of several points in the topography of the country, noted on those maps.

Hoping the map may arrive safely and in due time

I am very respectfully
Your obt. servt
John A. Clark

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. General Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
November 14th 1862

Sir

Enclosed herewith please find a special voucher amount of John M. Clark, draughtsman in this office, for the fractional quarter ending October 31st 1862, amounting to $126.35

I am very respectfully
Your obt. servt
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
November 8. 1862.

Sir

I have the honor to enclose herewith, a copy of the application of the heirs of Luis Maria Cabeza de Baca, to locate, at the "Bosque Redondo" on the Pecos river, in New Mexico, one fifth of the private claim confirmed to them by the act of Congress approved June 21. 1860 to which is added my certificate and the certificate of the Register and Receiver of the Land Office, certifying — in accordance with your instructions of July 26. 1860 — that the lands described in the application are vacant and not mineral

I also enclose a copy of an order issued by Brigadier General Carlton, on the day of the filing of the application by the heirs of Baca, establishing a military post at the "Bosque Redondo"

The "Bosque Redondo" is described as a fertile valley, well timbered with cottonwood & willow, about twenty miles in length & from two to five miles in width, on the River Pecos — I am not advised whether the military Post established by the enclosed order will fall within the limits of location No 3, designated in the enclosed application, but shall probably be informed within a short time & will report the facts.

As this location is far beyond the limits of the public surveys, I have not filed a copy of the application with the Register of the Land Office, supposing it unnecessary

I am very respectfully your
Obedient Servant
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. W. Edmunds
Commr. of the General Land Office
Washington City
D. C.

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New Mexico
December 1st 1862

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt by the last mail of your letter, requesting the transmission to the General Land office of specimens of minerals, fossils, soils &c

I cannot state how far I shall be enabled to comply with your wishes but hope to have it in my power to contribute largely to your collection in the course of the next four or five months

I am very respectfully
your obt. servt.
John A Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. General Land office
Washington City
DC.

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe New Mexico
December 13. 1862

Sir

Hon. William Gilpin, claiming to have the requisite authority derived from Hon. John S. Watts attorney for the heirs of Luis Maria Cabeza de Baca, has designated as one of the five tracts of land, authorized by the act of congress of June 21. 1860 to be located by said heirs in New Mexico, a tract, bounded on the North by the 38th parallel of latitude This is within the limits of this Territory as they existed at the date of the passage of the act authorizing the locations, but beyond the present limits, of course not within any district.

Have the heirs of Baca the right to designate lands beyond the present limits of New Mexico to be located as part of the grant to them? If they have this right, Is it within the province of the Surveyor General of New Mexico to receive the application, & make the location & survey of such designated lands, within the district of Colorado? As this is a matter of very great importance to the parties concerned I request the opinion of the Commissioner upon the above

points

I am very respectfully your obt. serv.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Comm. General Land office
Washington City D.C.

P.S. Mr. Delpine informs me that the above questions were submitted by him nearly a year since and were decided by you in the affirmative — J.A.C.

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fe N. Mx.
December 20. 1862

Sir

There are in this office a large number of blank record books, intended (as the lettering on the back notes indicate) for records of field notes — As the recording of field notes has, under your instructions, been discontinued, these books are no longer required in this office

I have sold to the assistant Adjutant General of this Department two of the books and to the Quarter Master one, which they propose to pay for at the prices paid for them in Philadelphia — I also let the former Asst. Adjt. Genl. have one of the books for which I hold his receipt

Shall I continue to dispose of these books at the original cost price? What disposition shall I make of the money received for them?

There are also several articles of furniture which will not again be required in this office, and which it would be better to have sold

I am very respectfully
Your obt. serv.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. General Land office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
December 30. 1862

Sir

I propose to contract for the extension of the principal base line, East, as far as the Pecos river; and for the running and establishing of a Guide Meridian, from the Township corner nearest the Pecos river, North to its intersection with the 2d correction line North, and South at least as far as the Rio Grande — in all about two hundred miles; And also for the running of the exterior lines and subdividing such Townships in the neighborhood of Fort Stanton, & on the Pecos river, as I may find upon examination to include sufficient irrigable land to justify the expense of survey — giving preference to those townships including settlements or in proximity thereto.

To enable myself to judge of the necessity of such surveys, I hereby apply for permission to visit the region of country where it is proposed to make them — I also request permission to make, at the earliest day practicable, the following explorations to wit: to visit and explore the country upon the head waters of the San Juan river, the country on & near the Mimbres & head waters of the Gila, and also permission to visit and examine the lands along and near the right bank of the Rio Grande from Fort Craig to El Paso.

As it is necessary that some one should remain in charge of this office during my absence, I request permission to employ, for the time, a clerk for that purpose —

I propose to make these explorations for the purpose of ascertaining what proportion of land there may be suitable for settlement and cultivation, in those districts, & whether the interests of the Government require that the public surveys should be extended over them —

The necessity of such an examination, before making contracts for surveys, is well demonstrated by the surveys which have heretofore been made in this district — Except a few townships on the Canadian river, I do not believe that one per cent of the land surveyed in New Mexico can ever be cultivated — As I have before advised you, the townships subdivided are mostly situated upon elevated table lands, destitute of water & timber, & can never be occupied except by Pastores with their flocks; & of course for any of the purposes for which lands are surveyed by the Government

are entirely worthless

The hire of any out of a conveyance, is so extravagantly high here, that it will be cheaper, to purchase an outfit in the beginning to be sold after I have completed my reconnoissance

This application is made with the understanding that my necessary travelling expenses will be paid by the Department, in accordance with instructions from the commissioner of the General Land office to this office dated August 26th 1854.

Please inform me whether I am to consider the unexpended balance of the appropriation for the surveying service in this district for the year ending June 30 1862, as on hand, & still applicable to that service

I am very respectfully your obt. servt
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. of General Land office
Washington City. D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 3d 1863

Sir

Herewith enclosed please find account of John Lamy for rent of building for the Surveyor Generals office for the quarter ending December 31. 1862; also my account accompanied by vouchers for cash advanced for the incidental expenses of this office during the same quarter, and also a statement of the approved accounts sent to the General Land office during the quarter

I am very respectfully your
obt. servt.
John A. Clark Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. General Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 3. 1863

Sir

Please forward to Messrs Robert Campbell & St. Louis Missouri, a draft on the Assistant Treasurer New York, for my salary for the quarter ending December 31st 1862

I am very respectfully your Obt. Svt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General
New Mexico

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Comm. General Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 5 1863

Sir

Enclosed herewith please find my property return for the six months ending December 31. 1862.

I am very respectfully your Obt. Svt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Comm. General Land Office
Washington City
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
January 24. 1863

Sir

I have the honor to enclose herewith an original copy of a memorial of the Legislative Assembly of New Mexico, asking Congress to provide by law for the running of the line between this Territory and Colorado. I called the attention of the Department to this matter in my annual report of September 29th 1862, and stated

this occasion to again urge the importance of the measure, for the reason stated in the enclosed memorial, and in my report above referred to

I am very respectfully
your obt. servt
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe Feb. 7. 1863.

Thomas Mears Esq.
Mora N.M.

Dear Sir

Your fav. of 2d. instant was rec. by last mail in answer to your inquiry as to the reason why the whole of your account for the survey of the Town of Mora grant was not paid, I copy from the Commissioners letter informing me of the payment on that account of $1500, the following "I have this day reported to the first Comptroller of the "Treasury for payment $1500 of Mr. Mears's account, withholding "$398 46/100 until the discrepancies you mention shall have "been corrected, the work completed and the plats and transcripts "of field notes returned to this office"

If you desire to go into the field to make the corrections and examinations before your return to Santa Fé, write me, and I will forward to your address the necessary memorandum of instructions

I am very truly yours
John A. Clark Sur Genl.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé January 9. 1863

Sir

Please find enclosed herewith, the application of the heirs of Luis Maria Baca, to locate one fifth of the private claim confirmed to them under the act of Congress approved June 21. 1860 — This location falls within the Territory of Colorado, but within the

limits of New Mexico as they existed at the date of the approval of the act confirming the claim —

I have transmitted a copy of the enclosed to the Surveyor General of Colorado, to enable him, when required, to make the survey —

I am very respectfully your obt. servt
John A. Clark
Surveyor General of New Mexico —

Hon J. W. Edmunds
Commr. of General Land Office
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
January 9th 1863

Sir

Enclosed herewith please find a copy of the application of the heirs of Luis Maria Baca to locate one fifth of their claim, confirmed by act of Congress approved June 21. 1860

At the date of the approval of the act above referred to New Mexico included the territory embraced within the boundaries described in this application, & I am advised by the Commissioner of the General Land Office that, it has been decided by that office, that under the law confirming the private claim in question, the locations may be made anywhere within the limits of New Mexico as they existed at the date of the approval of said act

The law requires that the application shall be made to this office — I have therefore received and filed the original application & forward you a certified copy, that you may be enabled to have the claim surveyed whenever the proprietor shall deposit with you the estimated cost of the work as now required by law, the location being within your district

I am very respectfully
Yours
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon Francis M Case
Surveyor General
Colorado Ter. Denver

P.S. Please acknowledge receipt of the enclosed — J.A.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
February 10. 1863.

Sir

I do not find on file in this office, nor any proceedings of the application of the heirs of Luis Maria Cabeza de Baca, for the locations numbered one and two of the private claim confirmed to them by the act of Congress approved June 21. 1860; nor do I find a copy of the certificates approving said locations, nor of those certifying the same to the General Land Office. Deeming it important that there should be a complete record of the papers referred to in this office, I have to request that, a copy of the applications & of the certificates of the Surveyor General, & of the Register & Receiver of the Land office, in relation to said two locations, be forwarded to this office to be placed on file with the other papers relating to said claim.

I am very respectfully
Your obt. Servt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
February 19th 1863

Sir

I received yesterday your letter of 21st January 1863, with enclosure.

In the exploration, authorized by your letter I shall comply as far as practicable with your instructions.

As I am neither a practical geologist or mineralogist, I shall not be able to do either subject full justice in my report, but will endeavor to bring to the knowledge of the Department, some facts connected with the minerals of New Mexico, which may be useful in directing future surveys, and tend to develope the resources of this territory.

Very respectfully your obt. Servt.
John A. Clark, Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
February 23. 1863

Thomas Moore Esq
U.S. Deputy Surveyor
Sir

As you have been informed, the sum of $398 $\frac{46}{100}$ was retained by order of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, out of your account for the survey of the Mora Town grant, until the discrepancies between your survey and the survey of the Las Vegas grant shall be reconciled

The line of the Las Vegas grant which forms one of the boundaries of the Mora grant (as reported by you) begins at a corner at the "Aguage de la Yegua" & runs thence N 41¼° W – At 7 miles 7.50 chains, it intersects the 4th correction line, 25.75 chains East of the corner to sections 32 & 33 Township 17 North Range 20 East, and at 10 miles, 48.75 chains, intersects the Guide meridian 11.50 chains North of the quarter section corner between sections 19 & 24 Township 17 North Ranges 19 & 20 East.

The East line of the Mora grant, according to your notes, begins at the same point (at the Aguage de la Yegua) & running thence due North intersects the 4th correction line at 5 miles 10.22 chains, 23.27 chains East of the quarter section corner on the South boundary of Section 32 Township 17 North Range 21 East; and at 29 miles 11.16 chains it intersects the 5th correction line 23.16 chains East of the quarter section corner on South boundary of Section 32 Township 21 North Range 21 East –

These connections with the public surveys show a wide discrepancy between the surveys of the Mora & Las Vegas grants, and must be explained, & your survey proven to be correct – or corrected – before the balance of your account retained as above can be paid –

I enclose herewith a sketch of a portion of the survey of Las Vegas, embracing the initial point of your survey (the Aguage de la Yegua) and showing two of the connections of the Las Vegas survey with the public surveys; and upon the same sheet a description of the corners on the 4th correction line along the South boundary of Township 17 North Range 20 East, & along the South boundary of Sections 31. 32 & 33 T 17 N R 21 E; also along the Guide meridian between Sections 31 & 36 – 25 & 30 – 24 & 19 & 13 & 18, T 17 N Ranges 19 & 20 E; also on the line between Sections 31 & 36 – 25 & 30 – 24 & 19 T 17 N Ranges 20 & 21 East; and along the line

of the Las Vegas survey from the Agua de la Yegua N 41° 4' W to its intersection with the Guide meridian

The figures on the Sketch plat, in red ink, refer to the description of corners in the first column — In the second column you will find description of the corners reported as established by you in running the East boundary of the Mora grant; and at the foot of the two columns, a description of corners on 2nd correction line, near the proper point of intersection of the line produced North from the Agua de la Yegua

Should you find the error to be in the line which you established for the East boundary of the Mora grant, and in correcting it, have to change the position of that line, you will destroy all the corners on the erroneous line

In resurveying & establishing the true line you will carefully observe the rules contained in the printed manual of instructions to Deputy Surveyors — a copy of which you have — especially that at each mile corner you plant a marked stone, if convenient; & if no stone can be found of a proper size, that you set in a mound a post of suitable size (such as required for section corners) marked on the corner set towards the South with the number in figures corresponding to the number of miles the corner is distant from the beginning corner; and marked also on the West side with the letters **E.B.M.G.** & in every case taking & marking witness trees with the same letters, when found within a reasonable distance

The law requires that, in making your survey, you follow implicitly the printed manual of Instructions to Deputy Surveyors (your contract requires the same thing) and a failure to do so, will cause the rejection of your work

Your attention is called to a practice which seems to have obtained with Deputy Surveyors in this District, of dispensing with the use of the chain in measuring across valleys and between distant objects — If any portion of a line is found to be inaccessible and cannot be measured by offsets, it is proper, for short distances, & with sufficient bases, to ascertain the distance by triangulation, but to insure accuracy, the opposite angle should never be less than ten degrees

I am very truly yours
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
February 27. 1863

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 5th February instant, directing that, the Hon. John S. Watts, as acting Attorney of the heirs of Don Luis Maria Cabeza de Baca, have leave to withdraw his application dated 30th October 1862, & filed in this office, for the location of one of the five tracts granted to said heirs, by the act of June 21. 1860

I am very respectfully your
obt. svt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
April 3. 1863

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. Genl Land Office
Washington City D.C.
Sir

Enclosed herewith please find approved account of John Lamy for rent of office building, for the quarter ending 31st March 1863; also my account, accompanied, in part, by vouchers, for cash advanced for incidental expenses of this office during the same period; also my account of expenses incurred in my reconnoissance down the Pecos river; and the account of David J. Miller temporary clerk, for his services for fourteen days, ending 31st March; and also a statement of the approved accounts transmitted to the General Land Office during the quarter

I am very respectfully your
obt. svt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
April 3rd 1863

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. General Land Office
Washington City D.C.
Sir

I left Santa Fe on the 18th ult. for the "Bosque Redondo" upon the Pecos River, and returned on the 1st inst. I found but little of interest on the way or at the Bosque on my return from the South will send you a copy of my itinerary

I leave tomorrow for Fort Craig, thence to the Gila river, with an expedition which leaves there next week to establish two new military posts—one on the Gila, & one about 100 miles South. It is said that a portion of the country over which we shall pass, is a rich mineral region. I hope to be able to transmit with my report of the reconnoissance, specimens of the ores of the region. It is probable I shall be absent six weeks—during my absence Mr. David J. Miller (former chief clerk in this office) will take charge of the office. I have fixed his compensation at one dollar per day or at the rate of $365. per annum to commence on the 18th ultimo.

I have concluded not to make any contracts for surveying until I get through with my explorations, as then I shall be enabled to act understandingly

I am very respectfully
your obt. servt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
April 3rd 1863.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. Genl Land Office
Washington City D.C.
Sir

On my return to Santa Fe on 1st inst. I received your letter of 25th February, containing in=

structions in regard to Mr. Meany's surveys which had been rejected

I suppose Mr. Meany is now engaged in attempting to reconcile the survey of the Mora grant with the public surveys & the survey of the Vegas grant. I issued instructions to him on 23d February, and he left here a day or two after, & said he should go immediately to the field. I have not heard from him since

On receipt of your former decision, rejecting his survey of the four townships & of the Ramirez grant, I returned to him his field notes, & I suppose he may have now in his possession.

When I return from the South, I will communicate with him, and examine his notes & inform myself of the character of the country surveyed and advise you of the result

I am very respectfully your
obt. servt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
April 3. 1863.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. General Land Office
Washington City D.C.
Sir

I have to request that you will forward the warrant for my salary, for the quarter ending March 31st 1863 to Messrs Robert Campbell & Co. St Louis Mo.

I am very respectfully your
obt. servt
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé N. M. May 25. 1863

Thomas Munroe Esq
Mora N M
Dear Sir

I received on my return to Santa Fe, last evening, the field notes of your examination of part of the

East boundary of the survey of the Mora grant, and your letter of 20th April accompanying the same, and I regret to inform you that, your report is unsatisfactory

If the position of the corner at the Aguage de la Yegua is as represented by the survey of Las Vegas grant, the correction of the error which you report in your present return, still leaves a discrepancy between your survey and the Las Vegas survey far beyond the limits prescribed by the Department — your connection with the 4th correction line as now reported being 16.43 chains too far South & 16.79 chains East of the proper point of intersection

Your examination does not show any error in Pelham & Clements survey, but simply proves that they made no corner at the point of intersection with the 4th correction line as reported by them — The position of the corner at the Aguage de la Yegua, and their line thence to the intersection of the 4th correction line may, so far as anything to the contrary appears, be correctly stated in the notes of their survey, & if so, your survey must be erroneous

The principal object of your return to the field was to reconcile the difference between the two surveys — in this you have failed — If you had traced the line of Pelham & Clements survey from the corner at the Aguage de la Yegua, to its intersection with the 4th correction line, you would probably have been enabled to explain the whole difficulty

Pelham & Clements survey having been received and as correct & approved, it cannot now be adjudged erroneous without proof — As you furnish no proof of the incorrectness of their line (which by its connection with your survey forms a part of it) your survey must still be considered erroneous.

It does not necessarily follow, because you found an error of 46.54 chains in your connection with the 4th correction line, that you made precisely the same error in your connection with the 5th correction line, and as you made no examination to prove that the same error was made at the two points, I do not agree with you in the conclusion that your field notes of the latter connection should be changed to correspond with that made with the 4th correction line —

I regret exceedingly, your failure to show who is responsible for the discrepancy between the two surveys — I forward your account for payment until it is shown when the

error is, would be simply to delay the matter still further, as, without the explanation sought, the Department would not pay the account

I am very truly yours
John A. Clark Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe N. M. May 26. 1863

Thomas Moran Esq.
Mesa N. M. 3

Dear Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt, on my return hm on 24th inst., of your letter of 18th instant, and of a package containing four books of field notes viz: of subdivision of T. 11 N R 11 E., of Pl. T 15 N. R 7 E. & of T 16 N Ranges 7 & 8 E. & of the North & East boundary of T. 11 N R 11 E.

I enclose herewith a copy of the letter of the Commissioner of the General Land Office in relation to the notes above mentioned

In the examination which I made of the notes when first returned by you to this office, I found errors & discrepancies in the work (of which I believe I informed you) which, if all the other requirements in the Commissioners letter of instructions, are met, must be corrected & reconciled before they can be approved by this office

In order that there may be no unnecessary delay in the matter, I will if desired, accompany you to the field, and assist you in making the examinations required

I am very truly yours
John A. Clark Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
May 25th 1863

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington D.C.

Sir

I left Santa Fé for the Lower Rio Grande & Gila rivers, on the 4th April last, & returned yesterday.

My route was, by stage, along & near the Rio Grande to Fort Craig, where I joined a military expedition, consisting of one company of Infantry & one of cavalry, in command of Capt Anderson 5th Infantry U.S.A., under orders for Fort West on the Gila river — I was furnished with transportation by the Quarter Master at Fort Craig and we left that post on the 7th of April — On the eleventh day out, at a point about S. 60° W & about 100 miles distant from Fort Craig (by the route travelled) the country became impracticable for wagons — We have left the principal part of the force with the wagons, & packing some provisions & other necessary articles, on mules, with twenty one men & two guides we took our departure for Fort West, where we arrived on the 24th April — Distance about 120 miles by the route travelled, & course about S. 30° W. I remained at Fort West two days — On 26th I left that post in company with General West & an escort of 9 men, for Mesilla, where we arrived on the 29th — remained at Mesilla & Las Cruces until 5th instant when I proceeded to Franklin, Texas, for the purpose of examining the Mesilla valley, & if possible to obtain some information concerning the title to lands in that valley, at El Paso Mexico. — Arrived at Franklin on the 6th and was detained there until 14th inst. when I joined G. M. Bryan Surgeon U.S.A. and following up the Rio Grande arrived at Santa Fe, as above

The result of my expedition may be summed up in a few words — I found no arable land West of the Rio Grande, except upon the Gila river near Fort West, on the San Francisco (an affluent of the Gila) and at the Mimbres river. The reserve for the Gila apaches covers the best part of the valley at Fort West — there being not to exceed 1500 acres in all of irrigable land — On the San Francisco, there are small detached pieces of from 10 to 50 acres of bottom land — not enough anywhere to form any considerable settlement — On the Mimbres river there is a strip of arable bottom land varying in width from 100 to 1000 yards, extending for many miles, from the crossing of the old overland mail route, northward to the Pinos Altos mountains; but none of these lands are now available for settlement on account of the hostility of the Apache Indians, & therefore, if it were practicable, I do not think it expedient, to extend the public surveys over them at present

the Mesilla valley on the Rio Grande, is a fine body of land, about fifty miles in length and averaging, of arable land, about three miles in width — I found upon enquiry, that a large portion (if not the whole) of this valley is covered by grants made by the Mexican authorities subsequent to the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, & prior to the treaty with Mexico of 30th December 1853. — The public lands in this valley should be surveyed and brought into market, but as it is impossible now to ascertain what portion of the valley is covered by valid grants from Mexico, it would be a waste of the public money to make the surveys, until the rights of the claimants shall be ascertained — I hope to obtain some authentic information concerning the concessions of land in this valley, from one of the Commissioners, who is now in El Paso, (& whom I omitted to see, but found him absent) & will forward to your office any information I may receive.

My route from Doña Ana (at the head of the Mesilla valley) to Paraje (6 miles below Fort Bliss) was over the "Jornada del muerto" — a low range of mountains intervening between the road and the river — There are no settlements between the two points, on the river, and but few places, I am informed, where the bottoms are wide enough to admit of any considerable settlements. From Paraje to San Felipe (where the road from Santa Fé first reaches the river) there is much unoccupied land, but it is mostly covered by grants from Spain & Mexico, and until these private claims are separated from the public domain, no public surveys should be made in that region —

From information received at Fort Webb & at other points, & from my own observation, I am fully convinced that the whole district from the mountains near Fort Stanton, to the Rio Colorado of the West, is exceedingly rich in the precious metals & in copper, lead & iron — In some parts of it, there is an abundance of water, but a large portion must remain undeveloped on account of the absence of water. As soon as the Indians are disposed of, these sections upon & near the water courses, will be occupied, & lead to magnificent results.

At the earliest day practicable I will make a more detailed report of my operations.

I have not yet visited Fort Stanton — when I shall be enabled to do so I will advise you.

I am respectfully your obt. Svt. John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe N. M. May 25th 1863

Mr. Milner Rudolph
Fort Union
Sir

On my return to Santa Fe last evening after an absence of nearly two months — I found your two favors of April 24th & 12th inst.; in the first of which you state that certain persons have settled on the creek above the Rincon del Lecolote, having permits, as they allege, from the Prefect of San Miguel County; and ask to be informed how you can remove them without violence &c

As from your statement there seems to be no public record of the title under which the people of Rincon del Lecolote claim their lands, nor any evidence of their title in their possession, I can form no opinion of its validity, or whether it covers also the lands above & now settled by the parties complained of

If the lands settled upon as stated, are not included in the grant (if there is a grant) to the inhabitants of Rincon del Lecolote, it is probably public land, & if so it is open to settlement, & no power but the United States can legally dispossess the party settling upon it.

The Prefect has no power whatever over the public lands

The inhabitants of each town are competent to control the lands belonging to the community, but of course can exercise no jurisdiction over lands outside of the limits of their holding — The water in a stream cannot be diverted from its natural channel by the possessors of lands thereon, to the injury of those holding lands below, but where (as in this Territory) the water of streams is used for purposes of irrigation, and is only diverted for that purpose, and allowed to return to the natural channel upon the lands of the party using it, with the loss of only so much as is absorbed by the earth, or evaporated in the process, it seems to me that those living below upon the stream, have no legal remedy against such use of it —

I am respectfully your obt Serv.
John A. Clark

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
June 2d. 1863

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. General Land Office
Washington City, D.C.

Sir

Enclosed herewith please find my account for expenses incurred & paid during my reconnoissance down the valley of the Rio Grande, & West of that river, & upon the Gila.

As will be seen by the account, I did not avail myself of the permission given in your letter of 21st January 1862, to purchase an outfit for my journey; but except from Santa Fé to Fort Craig, I was furnished by the Military authorities with transportation, thereby saving to the Government a considerable sum in forage, & probable loss in disposing of the necessary outfit.

I am very respectfully your
Obt. Svt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
June 3. 1863

Guadalupe Miranda Esq.
El Paso, Mexico

Sir

On the 7th ultimo, I visited El Paso, for the purpose of obtaining from you, some information concerning the concessions of lands in New Mexico, along the Rio Grande, between Robles & El Paso; & regret that by your absence, I was deprived the pleasure of a personal interview.

I was informed at La Mesilla, that nearly all the lands in the valley of the Rio Grande, from Robles to the southern boundary of this Territory, are claimed under concessions from the Republic of Mexico or from the State of Chihuahua. But few of the claimants have filed in this office, the evidence of title under which they claim, and I am left in doubt, whether the title to the lands has passed to individuals, or still remains in the Government of the United States. You will therefore confer a great favor upon the inhabitants of that district, as well as upon the Government which I represent, by furnishing to me such information as you may

possess concerning the matter. — If you have the records or access to them, you will greatly oblige me by furnishing a list of the concessions made, as well by grants as commissions of Chihuahua, as by the Republic of Mexico; giving the date of each concession, the name of the person or persons to whom made, the boundaries of each, & the name & style of the officer making the same; accompanied by a map showing the relative position of each concession —

With the information which I hope you can give, I expect to be enabled to ascertain, by investigation, the rights of the people & of the Government in respect to the lands referred to, and to contribute materially to the final settlement of the titles

I am very respectfully your
Obt Svt
John A. Clark Surveyor General

The above letter was translated into Spanish & transmitted
J.A.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
June 16. 1863

Hon. J. W. Edmunds
Commr. of General Land Office
Washington D.C.
Sir

In accordance with instructions contained in your letter of 6th ultimo, I herewith submit estimates for the surveying service in this district for the fiscal year ending June 30. 1863. as follows.

For public surveys — continuing the surveys of Base Meridian, Principle & Subdivision lines	$5000,00
For salary of Surveyor General	3000,00
For translator & chief clerk	2000,00
For draughtsman	1750,00
For messenger & watchman	400,00
For fuel, Office rent, stationery & contingent expenses	1000,00
Total ...	$13150,00

I am respectfully your obt. svt
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
June 18. 1863

Brigadier General James H Carleton
Commanding Department New Mexico

Sir,

Enclosed herewith I hand you a copy of a letter to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, which will explain itself. Nearly the whole route which I propose to take, in going to and returning from the newly discovered mines referred to in the enclosed, lies through a hostile Indian country; and I have therefore to request that I may be furnished with a sufficient military escort for the entire journey, as, without it, it will be impossible for me to proceed.

I am respectfully your obt. servant
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
June 18, 1863

Thomas Means, Esq.,
Mora, N. M.

Dear Sir.

I have been hoping to see or hear from you for the past two weeks, and regret that I am obliged to leave again for the South before either receiving an answer to my letters of 25th and 26th ultimo or having a personal interview with you.

I expect to be absent near two months, and in my absence Mr. David S. Miller will give you any information concerning your surveys in this Office which you may desire.

Very respectfully yours,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
June 18, 1863.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

Enclosed herewith please find account of David S. Muller, clerk in this Office for fractional quarter ending 30th instant.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
June 18, 1863.

Hon J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

Intelligence reached here a few days since from the Gila river, that a company of miners under Joseph Walker, the old mountaineer, have discovered gold fields and silver mines of exceeding richness and great extent, in the western part of this district.

This intelligence is deemed of such importance by the Governor of this Territory and other Federal officers that, in order that the people abroad may not be deceived and that the Government may have the earliest and most authentic information concerning these discoveries, I have been advised and strongly urged to visit the scene of the reported discoveries, ascertain the facts concerning them, and report the same at the earliest day practicable. The development of the mineral resources of our country and an increased production at this time of the precious metals is a matter of national interest.

The probability that at the approaching session of Congress measures may be taken to secure a revenue from the mines, either by surveying into small lots and selling the mineral lands or compelling the payment into the Treasury by the miners of a seigniorage upon the production, has increased the importance to Government of these discoveries.

Believing, therefore, that the public interest will be greatly promoted by an examination of the country and a full report concerning the mines, I shall avail myself of the general authority contained in your letter of 21st January, 1863, and leave here on the 20th instant for the purpose of making an examination

of the country and of the mines above referred to, and expect to be absent at least two months.

In going I shall be obliged to make a detour by way of Tucson and the Pima Villages, but in returning will come direct via the Colorado Chiquito and Zuñi.

General Carleton, commanding this military department, at my request, will furnish me with an escort for this service.

Immediately on my return to Santa Fé I will report fully to your Office upon all that shall come under my observation.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
June 18, 1863.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:

I enclose herewith copy of the application and certificate of location No. 3 of the private claim confirmed to the heirs of Luis Maria Cabeza de Baca.

As this location is far beyond any of the public surveys, I have not deemed it necessary to procure any certificate from the Register and Receiver of the Land office, as, from the nature of the case, they cannot officially know anything concerning it.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
September 17. 1863

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Sir

I reached Santa Fe this evening from my tour to the newly discovered gold fields referred to in my letter of June 18. 1863 By the mail

which leaves here on the 27th inst. I shall endeavor to make a report of my reconnoissance, accompanied by a map

I am very respectfully your obt. svt.

John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
September 18. 1863

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. of the General Land Office
Washington City, D.C.

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt by the mail this day, of the 12th Vol. U.S. Statutes at large

I am very respectfully
Your obt. Svt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe N. Mex.
October 3. 1863

Wm. J. M. Edmunds
Commr of the General Land Office
Sir

Please forward Draft on assistant Treasurer New York for my salary for the quarter ending 30th ultimo, to Messrs Robert Campbell & Co St Louis Missouri

I am very respectfully your obt. servt
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
October 3. 1863

Wm. J. M. Edmunds
Commr of the General Land Office
Washington, D.C.
Sir

As you have been advised, I arrived at Santa Fé from my Western tour, on the 17th ultimo.

Before leaving here in the month of June last, I employed a Mr Shamplin to prepare during my absence, a map to accompany my annual report — On my return I found he had failed me entirely — After the failure of Shamplin the time approaching when my annual report should be made — Mr John M. Clark late draughtsman in this office, on the invitation of Mr Miller, Clerk in charge during my absence, came here from Denver, Colorado Ter. and today has completed one of the maps. I therefore delay my report no longer, but forward it herewith in triplicate, with accompanying documents also in triplicate except the map, one copy only of which is transmitted — I hope to have the other two copies finished within two weeks, & will immediately transmit them

Having been delayed, unavoidably, at different points on my recent tour, I was absent nearly a month longer than I expected when I left here in June — I trust that no inconvenience may arise from the delay in forwarding my annual report —

I am very respectfully your obt. servt
John A. Clark Surveyor General

Santa Fe, New Mexico,
Surveyor General's Office,
September 24, 1863.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:—

As I have advised you, I left Santa Fe on the 28th of June last for Fort Craig, intending to proceed thence, by way of Fort West and the Pima Villages, to the newly discovered gold fields north of the Gila river. I arrived at Fort Craig on the 28th of June, and was detained there, waiting for my escort, until the 9th of July. During my stay at Fort Craig my escort was furnished with a guide who professed to know the road to the San Francisco mountains, having travelled once over the Beale or Whipple road, and believed that we would have no difficulty in going thence to the mines, supposed to be about seventy five or one hundred miles southwest from that point. Upon his representation I changed my route, and on the 9th July left Fort Craig, returning up the Rio Grande to Los Lunas, and proceeded thence, by way of Fort Wingate and Zuñi, to the San Francisco mountain over the Beale or Whipple road, which I intersected about forty miles west of Albuquerque. From the San Francisco mountain I pursued a southwesterly course, and reached the mines on the 19th day of August.

I spent my time from the 19th to the 31st August in visiting the different mining localities, extending in a southwesterly direction from my camp about forty miles and eastwardly about ten miles, and give you the result of my observations.

This new gold field is situated on the Hasiampa creek or river, Indian and Antelope creeks (affluents of the Hasiampa) and Lynx creek, a branch of the Agua Fria river— all streams heretofore unknown to geographers.

I found men at work mining at different points on the Hasiampa from near its source, ten or twelve miles down the stream, but did not get from them the actual results of their labor. I was told by several of them that, on nearly every claim worked to the bed rock, they found gold. Many claims were abandoned on this creek, for the time being, for more promising diggings elsewhere. From the best information I could obtain those who remained and worked diligently were making fair miners' wages. About fifty men— all citizens of the United States— were at work on this part of the stream. On Lynx creek there were about fifty men at work, also all citizens. Mr George Coulter informed me that he had taken from his claim between six and seven hundred dollars— had worked to the bed rock, over a space of about 12 by 20 feet. Mr. A. B. Cummings, on the claim

adjoining, below, had taken out four hundred dollars, with much less labor. Frank Finney, from his claim about six hundred yards above, on the day I was at the diggings, washed out three and a half ounces.

Many were opening their claims — some had no water, and of course were obtaining no gold; but I saw no one who had worked his claim down to the bed rock, and had water, who was not obtaining gold in remunerative quantities. When I was at the mines there was no water running in either Lynx creek or Hassiampa, but on most of the claims when they reached the bed rock a little water accumulated, which enabled the miners to wash a few pans of dirt each day. On Indian and Antelope creeks I saw many persons engaged in dry-washing, as it is called, there being no water. Most of the miners on these streams are Mexicans from Sonora. I could not learn the result of their operations, but was told that most of those who worked diligently were making fair wages

Between the Antelope and Indian creeks, on the summit of a mountain two or three thousand feet above the valley, there is a placer of most extraordinary richness. The placer is situated upon the very summit of the mountain between two rocky peaks. Here there is a space nearly level, descending slightly towards the west, about one hundred yards in width by about three hundred in length. Through this crops out a quartz ledge, running in a southwesterly and northeasterly direction. The solid rock on either side of this quartz ledge is covered to the depth of only a few inches with a reddish earth, and here, Mr. Jack Swilling, one of the six owners, informed me they had taken out, in a few weeks, twenty thousand dollars. There being so little earth upon the rock, and no water nearer than three miles, and the gold being all coarse, they found it the cheapest way to separate the gold from the earth by working with common butcher-knives, and the largest part of the gold was collected in that way; the balance by dry washing. I send you some specimens from this placer. The largest piece found in this mountain weighed a little less than seven ounces. All of the gold shown me in this new field is what is called coarse gold, and is very pure

The opinion expressed in my letter of May 25, 1863, concerning the mineral wealth of New Mexico and Arizona, has been greatly strengthened by my visit to these new discoveries. The miners whom I met were almost all anxious to move east to the San Francisco and Salt rivers, where they say there is an abundance of water at all seasons of the year — wide valleys of fertile land, good timber, and, they believe, gold, silver and copper in much greater abundance than where they are at work. — They were obliged to wait however, until they could muster a much larger force, for they will then have to contend with the Coyotero Apaches, who are numerous and hostile.

The mountains throughout this new mining district are everywhere intersected with quartz ledges, and it is believed that many of them are

rich in gold and silver; but no assays had been made, and their value was unknown.

On the upper portion of the Hassampa and on the branches of the Agua Fria there is excellent pine timber, but none on the lower Hassampa, nor on Indian or Antelope creeks.

When I was at the mines there was no running water in any of the streams, but in all of them sufficient for drinking purposes, and in some — as above observed — sufficient for washing a portion of the time with a pan or rocker. I was informed that in June last there was water running in the Hassampa and Lynx creeks, enough for "sluicing", and the miners believed, from information received from the Indians, that there would be water, from the melting of the snows in the mountains, adequate for running sluices three or four months in the year. There was fine grazing over the whole country traversed from the San Francisco mountain to within twenty miles of the western limits of the mines, and abundance of water for stock, but very little land susceptible of cultivation, on account of the absence of permanent running water for irrigation.

It was estimated that on the first instant there were in the Weaver district (which includes Antelope and Indian creeks and the lower diggings on the Hassampa) one thousand persons, of whom more than eight hundred are Mexicans from Sonora, and about one hundred in the Walker district, embracing the upper Hassampa and Lynx creek. Much ill feeling existed between the Mexicans and our citizens; and I fear they may have serious difficulty, unless there should be a military force stationed there to preserve order. The Indians surrounding the mines (the Tonto Apaches) were friendly at the time of my visit, but it was apprehended they would not remain so. There are no civil officers there. The people have no restraining power over them — each is a law unto himself — and the consequence must be disorder and anarchy, until civil government shall be organized, or Government shall send a military force sufficient to keep the vicious and turbulent in subjection.

Captain Bishop (commanding my escort) had with his command three wagons, all of which he took through without serious difficulty to the mines. In this last reconnoissance I travelled, on a mule, about thirteen hundred miles, and endured much fatigue; but the journey was full of interest to me, and not without its excitements. My route for more than two hundred miles, was through the country of the Navajo Indians, with whom we are at war — but they kept out of our way, and we were not molested in any way by them.

The development of the mineral resources of this country is a matter of interest to the nation, and I feel that the facts I have ascertained and communicated respecting these new discoveries of gold will be of such advantage to our Government as to compensate me for all my labor.

Captain Bishop left his wagons at the mines, and we returned with packmules, and from this cause I was unable to bring with me as many

specimens of the minerals and rocks of that country as I desired. I have a few small specimens of quartz, taken from ledges in different parts of the mines, which I shall send you by the first opportunity.

I enclose herewith a map of New Mexico and Arizona, with my route from Fort Craig to the mines drawn upon it in red ink, and an imperfect sketch of the mineral region and of the streams found there, drawn from my own observation and from information received from Mr. A.O. Benedict (one of the discoverers), Captain Walker, and others.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General New Mexico.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
October 3, 1863.

Sir.—

I have the honor herewith to forward my semiannual property return covering the half year ending the 30th of June last, which has not been prepared and forwarded at an earlier day on account of my protracted absence from the Office.

Respectfully your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Hon. Wm Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
October 3, 1863.

Sir.—

Accompanying I have the honor to send to the General Land office, for adjustment, the salary and incidental expense accounts, that had not been previously sent up, for the two fiscal quarters ending June 30 and September 30, 1863, together with a tabular statement, showing the entire expenditures during those two quarters, payable out of appropriations made for this Office.

Please have the drafts forwarded as respectively requested by the payees on the faces of their accounts.

I am, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Fort Craig, New Mexico, July 6, 1863.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:—I have to acknowledge the receipt by the last mail (forwarded to me from Santa Fé) of your letter of instructions of 3rd June, 1863.

As the United States is at war with nearly all the Indian tribes inhabiting this district, making it unsafe for operations in the field without military protection, it is probable that I shall make no contracts for surveying this season.

Up to the time of my leaving Santa Fé, Mr. Means had not reported in person at my office to make the necessary explanations and corrections of his fieldnotes of the survey of the four townships directed by you to be examined and reported for payment in case the conditions stipulated in your instructions should be met, and therefore his work remains suspended until my return. He has also failed to make the necessary examinations and explanations to enable me to approve his survey of the Moro town grant.

I expect to leave here on the 10th instant for the West, with an escort of 25 men commanded by Capt. Pishon, 1st California Cavalry, and shall not probably have an opportunity of communicating with you again until my return in September next.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General of New Mexico.

Fort Craig, New Mexico, July 6, 1863.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:—Please forward to James Mitchell, Esq., Freeport, Illinois, a draft on Asst Treas., New York, for my salary for the quarter ending June 30, 1863.

I am, very respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General of New Mexico.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
October 10. 1863

Thomas Ewing Esq.
Mexico, New Mexico
Sir

Referring you to my letters of 25th & 26th May last I have to request that you will inform me what action you propose to take respecting the surveys therein mentioned, the field notes of which are in this office

Very truly yours
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
October 17, 1863

Sir:

Herewith I have the honor to forward, for settlement, my account for sundry necessary expenses incurred by me in the public service, and which is supported by the necessary vouchers. Please have the warrant in payment of the same forwarded as I have requested on the account.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Hon. Jas. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
October 17. 1863

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.
Sir

I have mailed this day to your address one package (roll) containing two copies of the map of New Mexico, the same being the complement of the number required to accompany my annual report

I am very respectfully
Your Obt. Svt.
John A. Clark Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
October 22, 1863.

Sir:—

I acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 28th of July last, accompanied as it was by several documents of importance relative to the Colony of Doña Ana, which I have had translated and placed on file in this Office. Allow me to thank you for this favor, making me so much your debtor.

I anxiously await the receipt of also the information you promised to forward so soon as you might collect some data which you thought you had preserved at your home at El Paso concerning the Colony of La Mesilla, Santo Tomas, &c. Among this information I request that, should you be able to procure it, you include a copy of the regulation of May 22, 1851, or at least the 15th article thereof, which is referred to in the grants made to the colonists of Mesilla, as also copies of laws 1 and 10, title 12, book 4, of the Recopilacion, and the law of the State of Chihuahua on the same subject of May 1, 1851, for, so far as I am aware, neither the Recopilacion nor the statutes of Chihuahua are to be had here.

Any expenses you may be at in procuring and transmitting these laws I will promptly refund to you on being advised of the amount.

I remain your obedient servant,

John A Clark,
Surveyor General of New Mexico.

Don Guadalupe Miranda,
Doña Ana, New Mexico.

☞ The above letter was translated into Spanish and transmitted

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
October 31, 1863.

Hon J. W. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:— I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th of August last covering a letter from Alex. S. Taylor, Esq., of Santa Barbara, California, of 20th March, 1863, suggesting the preparation by this Office of "a bibliographical cronological catalogue of the Spanish and Mexican archives from 1580 to 1846, now deposited in the office of the Secretary of the Territory.

I notice the requests contained in your letter upon the same subject.

Mr. Pelham, the first Surveyor General of this district, under instructions from your Office of August 21, 1854, had the archives in the Secretary's Office carefully examined, and all papers and documents relating to the titles to land, were selected and withdrawn, and now remain on file in this Office. A complete schedule of the papers so obtained was prepared and accompanied the report of the Surveyor General of 30th September, 1856, and may be found in Executive Document No. 1, 34th Congress, 3rd Session, pages 413 to 432 inclusive.

There remain in the Executive Office an immense mass of old documents, some of them undoubtedly of historical interest

After the acquisition of this Territory by the United States a catalogue (or index as it is called) was made out, under the direction of the Governor, of all the Spanish and Mexican archives then remaining in the Executive Department. The "index" has no date, but I am informed it was made prior to the year 1850.

I have had the catalogue examined, and herewith enclose a memorandum of the number of papers or packages, and of their character as exhibited by it. On examining the papers in the Secretary's Office I found the numbers in the "index" more frequently referring to packages, containing often twenty papers on the same subject, than to single papers.

The preparation of a "bibliographical cronological catalogue" such as Mr. Taylor suggests, would involve the reading of each paper, or of no less than twenty thousand documents. As many of the papers are defaced and a considerable portion of them written in old Spanish, it would require a large amount of labor to complete it. It would be a good subject for an appropriation by the Smithsonian Institution, but it seems to me that it has no proper connection with this Office.

I am, very respectfully your obedient servant,

John A Clark,
Surveyor General.

Memorandum

Of Documents of all classes pertaining to the times of the Governments of Spain and Mexico in New Mexico, as catalogued in the General Index in the Office of the Secretary of the Territory of New Mexico.

I.— Packages containing according to said general index, 9938 papers or bundles of papers, embracing an infinite variety of matters and subjects and extending in the dates they bear from 1681 to 1846, the descriptions thereof commencing as follows, beginning with No. 1:—

"Collection bearing the ancient mark 1681 and containing an account of the proceedings therein cited — proclamation published for the restoration and conquest or reconquest of the kingdom of New Mexico by the Governor and Captain General thereof, Antonio de Otermin, the same who conducted from this town of Santa Fé to the Salineta the few people who survived the insurrection of the Indians, where he established a military post, and stationing his troops at the other pueblos of El Paso del Rio del Norte."

II. — Packages containing as aforesaid 552 papers or bundles, being grants to land or papers relating exclusively to land matters, all or most of which have been transferred to and are now on file in the Office of the Surveyor General

III. — Written and printed miscellaneous documents, being, according to said general index, 553 in number, embracing a period from about 1800 to 1846, and mainly consisting of and relating to the following papers and subjects:—

Royal edicts and decrees concerning the Province of New Mexico and the King's subjects therein; laws and decrees concerning local and national affairs in New Mexico; proceedings of the Territorial Deputation; levying and collection of taxes; reports of the heads of departments national and local; reports from and instructions to local civil and ecclesiastical officers; reports of civil and military trials; correspondence with departments at the national capital and with the authorities of other States and Territories; messages, proclamations and addresses of the Presidents, &c., of Mexico and of the Governors of New Mexico; correspondence with military commanders; addresses of the representatives of New Mexico in the national Congress to their constituents; memorials to Congress; documents, &c., received from the national government and from other States and territories; schools; agriculture; Indians; customs; censuses and statistics of the Territory, the church, &c.

IV. — Packages containing as aforesaid 250 papers or bundles, embracing a period from 1778 to 1846, classified by said general index as military, and mainly consisting of and relating to as follows:—

Royal letters patent and edicts of the kings of Spain and Viceroys of Mexico; the regular army and the militia; public offices and officers; civil and military officers in New Mexico; statements, estimates, &c.; general and special orders of military commanders; the Indians and Indian wars; accounts of fires and other arms and military reviews; interviews with wild Indian chiefs; military posts and reconnoissances; enlistments in the army, royal and national; company rolls, infantry and cavalry; laws, decrees, proclamations, circulars, &c., of national and local authorities; correspondence with the Secretaries of War and Marine, Internal Relations, Treasury, &c.; correspond-

ence with the Governor of the Province, the Territory, &c.; general correspondence; communications between military commanders; communications of the Provincial and Territorial Deputations; books of correspondence; reports of committees; monthly reports or statements of occurrences and events for various years; proceedings of the Commissary General; customhouse passports and permits; notices of the Pueblos of the Province; military expeditions of Governors and Captains General; invasion by the Texans of New Mexico in 1841; lot of old newspapers; &c.

V.—Packages containing as aforesaid 256 papers or bundles, embracing a period from 1819 to 1840, classified by said general index as financial, and consisting of and relating to mainly as follows:—

Royal edicts and decrees of the Kings of Spain and Viceroys of Mexico; regulations from different departments and bureaus; proclamations, circulars, &c.; laws and decrees, forms and instructions and communications from the Secretaries of the Treasury and of State; tariff schedules; entries and manifests; contraband, prosecutions for smuggling, &c.; permits; district or circuit courts and judges; direct taxes; revenue, territorial and national; department and frontier customhouses; public employees; annuities or presents; stamped paper; forced loans; fur trade; tythes; commissary department; official reports; communications from forced loan commissioners; correspondence with the Secretary of the Treasury, Treasurer of New Mexico, Governor, Collector of Customs, military commanders, commissaries, Political Chiefs, Alcaldes, and various other authorities in and out of New Mexico.

☞ The General Index mentioned in the foregoing and all the documents therein referred to are in Spanish.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
November 2. 1863

Alex. S. Taylor Esq
Santa Barbara Cal.
Sir

On my return to Santa Fé a few weeks since — after an absence of nearly three months — I found a letter from the Commissioner of the General Land Office dated August 15. 1863, enclosing your letter of 25th March 1863, suggesting that this office prepare a "Bibliographical Chronological Catalogue of the Spanish and Mexican archives from 1580 to 1846, now deposited in the Office of the Secretary of the Territory at Santa Fé" — There are

in the Secretary's office an immense number of Spanish and Mexican documents, some few of which, I have no doubt, possess historical interest. The earliest of these papers bears date 1681. All records of an earlier date were either destroyed during the insurrection of 1680, or were carried away and not returned.

Soon after the establishment of this office the archives in the Secretary's office were carefully examined, and all papers relating to the title to lands were withdrawn, and are now on file in this office.

A catalogue was made out, under the direction of the Governor, about the year 1849 or 1850, of all the Spanish & Mexican documents then in the Executive department. The papers are then arranged in packages and numbered, and referred to in the catalogue by brief descriptions & by number. I find upon examination that the numbering in the catalogue, more frequently refers to packages than to single papers, or that the above number given in the catalogue — 11549 — is less, probably, than half or perhaps one fourth, of the papers in the Secretary's office.

To carry out your suggestion would involve an immense amount of labor, & of course would be attended with very considerable expense. I have suggested to the Commissioner of the General Land Office that it would be a good subject for an appropriation by the Smithsonian Institution, but, as all the papers relating to land matters have been withdrawn, I do not see that it has any proper connection with this office.

I am very respectfully
your obt. servt.
Wm. A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
November 10. 1863

Mr. Manuel Lucero
Fort Wingate N. Mex.
Sir

As requested, I have examined the papers on file in this office, relating to the Pueblo of Acoma. I find the boundaries of the grant to this Pueblo as follows: On the

North the Prieto mountain, on the West the Gallo spring, on the South the Penol, and on the East the Cubero mountain — These boundaries cover also, I think, the grant to Laguna, but as I do not know the position, on the ground, of the cally of the latter grant I cannot tell whether they conflict or are independent. The boundaries of the Laguna Pueblo are as follows: On the North the Agua Mia spring and the spring called Paquete, on the East by the Merita bottoms and the Merita Piedras de Amolar, on the South "a water which is under a rock", and on the West the Cañada Ancho, which empties Toward the North — I suppose the boundaries of the Pueblo of Acoma include your place — they certainly do, if the spring called the Gallo in the grant, is the same as now known by that name at Fort Wingate. The "Prieto mountain" is the mountain North West of Cubero — on the North side of the Gallo eng, is it not?

The Laguna and Acoma Indians, had a suit in chancery, in the District Court of Bernalillo County, and a decree has entered, defining the rights of the two Pueblos in regard to the water, & I am informed, also as to their boundaries — I have no copy of the decree at hand, & cannot inform you correctly as to what it contains — If you will write to your friend Mr. Hill, at Albuquerque, he can ascertain and inform you

I am very truly yours
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
November 11, 1863

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir: — I have the honor to enclose herewith the approved account of John M. Clark as draughtsman in this Office. Please forward draft in payment of the account as requested by him.

I am, very respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
December 30. 1863.

Hon J. M. Edmunds
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Sir

I received yesterday your letter of 17th ultimo, covering schedule of stamp duties; and I notice, and will observe, your instructions in relation to the same

I am very respectfully
your obt Svt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
December 31, 1863.

Sir:—

I forward herewith my account, supported by the corresponding vouchers, for sundry necessary expenses incurred by me in this Office during the fiscal quarter ending this day, and also the account of David J. Miller for his services as Translator, and of John B. Lamy, for rent of Office building for the same period.

Please have the drafts in payment of these Accounts forwarded as requested in red ink on the faces thereof respectively.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,
John A. Clark, Surveyor General

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City,
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
December 31, 1863.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor here-

with to forward to the General Land office my Semiannual Property Return and quarterly Financial Statement of Expenditures, respectively for the Half Year and Fiscal Quarter ending this day.

Very respectively your obedient Servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's office
Santa Fé New Mexico
January 2d 1864

Hon J. M. Edmunds
Commr. of the General Land office
Washington City D.C.

Sir

Please forward to Messrs Robert Campbell & Co, St Louis Missouri, a draft on the assistant Treasurer New York in payment of my salary for the quarter ending 31st ultimo

I am very respectfully your obt Servt.

John A. Clark
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
January 12. 1864

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Sir

I have the acknowledge the receipt by mail today, of your letter of the 18th ultimo informing me that leave of absence for four months has been granted me, to commence at the date of the receipt of your letter

I hope to leave here in the stage on the 18th instant, and expect to arrive at Freeport, Illinois, about the 5th February, when I shall remain for several weeks, unless my presence shall be desired in Washington

I have made arrangements with Mr. David J. Miller (former translator & chief clerk) to take charge of this office until my return – his compensation to be fifty dollars per month

During the quarter ending 31st ultimo, I employed Mr. Miller to translate the Spanish documents on file in this office in cases in which the owners of grants of land had filed

petitions to have them investigated, but which have not been brought up for hearing — There are also in this office among the archives brought here from the office of the Secretary of the Territory, nearly two hundred packages of papers marked & designated as "grants", many of which should be translated I have hesitated to employ a translator to translate these papers, because up to this time, the necessity for so doing was not pressing, but I think the time has now arrived when all the means within our reach should be used to ascertain the extent of the public domain in this Territory, and to this end it is necessary that such of these papers as purport to be complete grants of lands or mines, should be translated. I propose therefore — if you approve — to reinstate Mr Miller as translator in this office at his former salary, to date from the day of the receipt here of your approval, and to continue until he completes the translations as above

I am very respectfully your obt. Svt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
January 18 1864.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. of the General Land Office
Washington City, D.C.

Sir

I received yesterday twenty seven dollars from the Quartermaster U.S.A. in payment for two books sold to him more than a year since; and in accordance with your instructions dated 14th January last, I have deposited the money with the Receiver at this place to the credit of the appropriation "for rent of the Surveyor General's office in New Mexico, fuel, books, stationery, and other incidental expenses", and herewith enclose his certificate of deposit for the same

I am very respectfully your obt. Svt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Freeport, Illinois, February 15, 1864.

David S. Miller, Esq.,
Santa Fé, New Mexico.

Dear Sir:— I enclose herewith letter from the Commissioner of the General Land office (which record and file) authorizing me to employ a Translator, &c.; and in accordance therewith you are hereby reinstated as Translator in my Office, to date from the day of your receipt of this letter.

Your first business will be the examination of all the archives in the Office not heretofore translated, and the selection and classification of all such as in your opinion constitute valid grants to lands or mines; after which you will proceed with the translation of the papers so selected.

Please write me on receipt of this.

I am very truly yours,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General of New Mexico.

April 2, 1864.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:— I have to acknowledge the receipt, on my return to Santa Fé from Arizona, of your letter of 18th July, 1863. In reply I have to state that there is no evidence in the Office of the Surveyor General of New Mexico that the tract of land located by the heirs of Luis Maria Cabeza de Baca, designated as Location No. Three, contains any mineral or that it is occupied. There have been no public surveys made in the neighborhood of said tract, and there is no record of or concerning the land in question in the Surveyor General's Office, nor—as I believe—in the Office of the Register or Receiver of the Land office of New Mexico. As I am personally unacquainted with that region of country, I cannot certify that the land in question is "mineral and not mineral," or otherwise. Those facts can only be determined by actual examination and survey.

I am, very respectfully, your obt. servt.,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General of New Mexico.

April 7, 1864.

Hon. L. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:— On my return from Arizona in the month of September last, I found on file in the Surveyor General's Office an application in behalf of the heirs of Luis Maria Baca to locate one-fifth of the claim confirmed to them by the act of Congress approved June 21, 1860, on the Pecos river, above and adjoining the military reserve of Fort Sumner. The application was filed on the 21st of June, 1863.

As General Carleton, in command of the military department of New Mexico, was endeavoring to collect and settle in the vicinity of Fort Sumner the Apache and Navajo Indians, I did not at the time approve of the selection made by the heirs of Baca nor report upon it, and no official action has been had upon the matter up to this time.

Since the filing of the application the land selected by the heirs of Baca, with other lands above and below Fort Sumner, have been reserved by order of the President for the use of the Apache Indians, and I am informed that over five thousand Indians (Apaches and Navajos) are now collected and settled upon this reserve. The heirs of Baca through their attorney have expressed their willingness to remove this location to other unoccupied land.

Regarding the permanent settlement of the Indians of New Mexico upon this reserve as a matter of vital importance to the Government and to the people of the Territory, I have to suggest that the necessary legislation should be obtained to enable the heirs of Baca to make another selection in lieu of the land occupied by the Indians and reserve as above.

I am, very respectfully, your obt. servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General of New Mexico.

May 2, 1864.

Hon. L. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington, City, D.C.

Sir:— I have the honor to enclose herewith approved account of D. J. Miller, Clerk in the Surveyor General's Office, for services from 18th day of January to 9th March, 1864, both inclusive, at the rate of $600 per annum. Please forward draft as requested.

Very respectfully, your obt. servant,
John A. Clark, Surv. Gen. New Mexico.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir. — In compliance with your letter of instructions of 7th May, 1864, I submit herewith estimates of appropriations for the Office of the Surveyor General of New Mexico for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1866, viz: —

For compensation of Surveyor General	$3000.00
" " Translator	2000.00
" " one Draughtsman	1750.00
" Public Surveys — continuing Survey of Base, Meridian, Township and Subdivision Lines	5000.00
" Fuel, Office Rent, Stationery and Incidental Expenses	1000.00
" Messenger and Watchman	200.00
Total	$12,950.00

I am, very respectfully, your obt. servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General New Mexico.

July 2, 1864.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico.
August 13, 1864.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds, Commissioner General Land Office.
Washington City, D.C.

Sir: — Accompanying I forward approved Accounts created in this Office during the two fiscal quarters ending June 30, 1864, those payable from the incidental expense fund being supported by the necessary vouchers.

Mr. Miller, as his accounts show, continued to act as clerk up to the 20th of April, when he entered upon his duties as Translator. The account for his services in the former capacity from the time of my leaving the Office for the States up to the 9th of March was sent to your Office on the 2d of May and was duly paid.

Please have the drafts sent as requested on the faces of the accounts.

Respectfully your obt. servant,
John A. Clark,
Sur. General New Mexico

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
August 11, 1864.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:— On my arrival here yesterday I received your telegram of 16th ultimo (received at this Office on the 2d instant) advising me of the passage by Congress of the law annexing Arizona to this surveying district, and also that ten thousand dollars for New Mexico and the same sum for Arizona has been appropriated for extending the public surveys during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1865.

I think it quite doubtful whether I shall be enabled to send into the field any surveying parties during the present season. We are at war with all the bands of Apaches who roam over the country from the Pecos river south of 34th parallel of latitude westwardly to point within about one hundred miles of the Rio Colorado, and a surveying party without military protection in any part of that region outside of the settlements would be in constant danger of being cut off. I hope by the opening of the next Spring, or perhaps sooner, we may so far far subdue the Indians as to have peace with them. I shall lose no time in taking the proper measures to extend the public surveys in this district whenever the condition of the country will permit it. In the meantime, with military protection, I can make the necessary preliminary examinations to enable me to decide where to make surveys, and what lands should be first surveyed, and to fix upon the initial point in Arizona for a meridian and base line for that Territory — if it shall be determined to establish one; and for these purposes I have to request permission of your office to make such personal examinations of the country along the Gila and its branches, along the Colorado and its branches, and of the region about Fort Stanton as I may deem necessary — and that while so employed my actual expenses may be paid out of the fund provided for extending the public surveys in this district. If permission is given I will leave here for Arizona about the first of November.

I am, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office.
Santa Fe, August 15, 1864.

Messrs. Cesario Duran and Jose Candelario,
Fort Stanton, New Mexico.

Gentlemen.— On my return to Santa Fe on the 10th instant your request to be informed "what steps are necessary to be taken in order to perfect title in the settlers to the lands in the Tularosa Valley," was handed to me by Mr. Miller, Translator in this Office. There can be no steps taken by the settlers to perfect their title until the lands shall be surveyed under instructions from this Office. A bill was presented to Congress by our worthy representative Don Francisco Perea, at the last session, authorizing the proper officer to make surveys different from those now authorized by law, the intention of the bill being to make the lines of survey conform in this Territory, to the lines of the small farms as nearly as practicable. Another bill was introduced, also by our Delegate, giving to the people residing in villages or plazas the right of preemption, and also the homestead right to the lands cultivated by them respectively outside of their villages. These bills are very important ones to the people of New Mexico and Arizona, as under them the inhabitants of towns and villages who own and cultivate lands outside will be enabled to secure title to their lands; and speculators will be deprived of the power to purchase or to take by preemption the small farms of the people. These bills will both become laws, I have little doubt, during the next session of Congress. Until your lands are surveyed your possession gives you a better title than any other person can have. All you have to do therefore is to keep possession of your lands until they are surveyed— then you can secure your title.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

[The above letter was translated into Spanish and transmitted.]

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
September 1, 1862.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:— I have this day mailed to your address my annual report in duplicate, with accompanying documents marked A, B, C and D, also in duplicate There having been no work done in the field during the year, and hence no changes to note in the sketch of public surveys of this district usually accompanying the annual report, I do not accompany my report with a map.

I am gathering from every source within my reach facts concerning the geography and topography of this district, and hope, with my next annual report, to present a complete map of New Mexico and Arizona, showing the general geographical and topographical features of those portions heretofore marked "unexplored," and correcting numerous errors in the positions of streams, mountains and other objects improperly delineated upon the published maps of these Territories.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
September 1, 1864.

Sir.—

I have the honor herewith to enclose my returns of property in this Office and belonging to the United States for the six months ending June 30, 1864.

Very respectfully,
Your obt. servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land office,
Washington City,
D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
September 10. 1864

Hon J. M. Edmunds
Commr of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt, by the mail which arrived on 8th inst, of your annual letter of instructions dated August 1st 1864; and also by the same mail, of twenty five copies of printed "Instructions to Surveyors General" mentioned in said letter

I am very respectfully your obt
Servt

John A Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
September 30 1864

Hon J. M. Edmunds
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Sir

I forward herewith my account with vouchers, for necessary expenses incurred in this office for the quarter ending this day, and also the account of David J. Miller for services as Translator, and of John B. Lamy for rent of Office building for the same period

Please forward drafts in payment as requested upon the face of the accounts

I am very respectfully your obt Servt
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
September 30. 1864

Hon J. M. Edmunds
Commr of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Sir

Please forward to Robert

Campbell & Co, St Louis, Missouri, a draft on the Assistant Treasurer, this City, in payment of my salary for the quarter ending this day.

I am very respectfully your Obt Servt
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico
October 19th 1864

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt, on yesterday, of your letter of 17th ultimo, in which you call my attention to "an act to amend an act entitled an act to confirm certain private land claims in the territory of New Mexico" approved June 11. 1864, and say that "the foregoing act authorizes the relocation of the 3d location" &c. The application to locate the 3d location at the Bosque Redondo, on the Pecos river, was filed in this office on the 30th October 1862, and approved and forwarded by me to your office with my letter of 8th November 1862. Upon the application of Hon John S. Watts, acting attorney for the heirs of Baca dated 18th January 1863, they were allowed by you to withdraw the application to locate as above — as I was advised by your letter of February 5. 1863 — which was done.

On the 18th of June 1863 said location No 3 was relocated at the Salas Mountain in Arizona, & a copy of the application with my approval was forwarded to you with my letter of that date.

On the 21st of June 1863 Judge Watts acting as the attorney of the heirs of Luis Maria Baca, filed in this office this application to locate the 5th and last location, a copy of which I herewith enclose — I did not at the time approve & forward a copy of this last application to your office for reasons stated in my letter of 7th April 1864

It is this last location, and not location No. 3,

that is referred to in the act of Congress approved June 11. 1864. It has not yet been as located by the heirs of Baca.

I am very respectfully your obt Svt
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
October 20th 1864.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Sir

Your letter of 20th ultimo, granting me permission to make the reconnoissance as requested in my letter of August 11th 1864, was received on 18th instant.

I cannot now determine the time of my departure, as I can only go with an escort or a company large enough to make defence against the Indians, but will advise you when I shall be enabled to do so

I am respectfully your obt Svt
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
November 3d 1864

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Sir

I have sold to Charles Newman Esq. the paper furniture and stamps belonging to this office, for twenty three 65/100 dollars, and, in compliance with your instructions of 14th January 1863, have deposited said sum with the United States Depository at Santa Fé, to the credit of the appropriation for "rent of office of Surveyor General, fuel, books, stationery and other incidental expenses" and herewith endose his certificate of deposite for the same

On the 18th of January last, I deposited to the credit of the appropriation as above, with the U.S. Depository here, twenty seven dollars, & mailed to your address a

certificate of deposite for said sum, dated on said 18th January 1864, but have not yet received any acknowledgement of its receipt by you. Please inform me whether it was received.

I am very respectfully
Your obt. Svt.
John A. Clark
Survyr General

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
December 21, 1862.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir.— I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th ultimo, with enclosure, requesting me to designate upon the map the exact locality of Prescott and Fort Whipple in Arizona.

As requested I have designated upon the enclosed map the position of Prescott and Fort Whipple as determined by my explorations in that region in 1862. Of course this is approximate only, as no surveys have been made in the neighborhood, nor has the latitude or longitude, to my knowledge, been determined. I think, however, that their position will be found to be nearly correct. The map which I enclose herewith is the best map of Arizona extant. Can you procure at the War Department, for the use of this Office, a few copies—say twenty—of this map? If they cannot be procured please send me, for the use of the Office, a few copies of the outline map accompanying the annual report from this Office for the year 1861 or 1862.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
John A. Clark
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
December 21, 1864.

Hon. John Pierce,
Surveyor General of Colorado, Utah, &c.

Sir.— On the 18th January, 1862, I transmitted, with other papers, to your Office, the original papers, with translations, relating to the land claim of Pablo Montoya, viz:—

Petition of attorney for claimant,
Amended do
Title papers in Spanish, do
Translation of do
Testimony in the case,
Decision of Surveyor General.

At the time the papers were sent I supposed the claim was for land on the Rio del Norte near Fort Garland, but have lately learned that it is on the Canadian river in this Territory. As these papers constitute the only evidence of title in the parties to the land claimed, it is important to them that they should be in their proper place and accessible. I have therefore to request that you will return the papers in the claim above mentioned to this office.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
December 21, 1864.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:— On the 18th January, 1862, I transmitted to the Surveyor General of Colorado the original papers relating to the private claim (reported No. 41) of Pablo Montoya, with the translations, supposing that the land claimed was in the Territory of Colorado. I have lately learned that the land is situated on the Canadian river in this Territory—and have therefore applied to the Surveyor General of Colorado to return the papers in the case to this Office.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
December 31, 1864.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir.— Accompanying I have the honor to enclose the approved accounts, salary and incidental expenses, created in this Office during the quarter ending on this date; and request that you have the warrants that may be issued in payment thereof forwarded as requested (in red ink) on the faces of the same.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
December 31, 1864

Sir.—
Herewith you will receive my semiannual return of property in this Office belonging to the United States.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
December 28. 1864

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Sir

Since I received your approval of my proposed reconnoissance in Arizona, but on company of men affording any promise of protection on the way, has gone from the Rio Grande to Prescott. I could not make the necessary arrangements to go with them, & I have therefore been obliged to postpone indefinitely my visit to the Western part of my district. It is my intention

to avail myself of the first opportunity which may present, and make the reconnoissance as at first proposed.

I received by last express from Prescott, a letter from Hon J. P. Goodwin, Governor of Arizona, in which, writing from Prescott, he says "in hope to have some surveying done soon at this point, "and between this point and the Colorado river. There are "are some very fine valleys between us and the river on the Mojave "road". "Our new town is progressing rapidly, the ledges prospect "well. In fact their great richness is a disadvantage. Capitalists "will not believe that the specimens we send them are taken at "large from the vein" &c

The development of the mines of Arizona is not as rapid as there was good reason to expect earlier in the season. There is a quartz mill in process of erection near Prescott, but I think it is not yet in operation. But little can be expected in the way of immigration or improvement until there shall be mills in operation to reduce the quartz, & thus prove to the world the richness of the veins

I am very truly & respectfully
your obt. Svt
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
December 31st 1864

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Sir

Please direct that a draft on the assist. Treasurer New York, for my salary for the quarter ending this day be forwarded to Messrs Robert Campbell & Co. St Louis Missouri

Very respectfully your obt Svt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
January 5, 1865.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:— I leave here on the 7th instant by the coach for Las Cruces, and shall go thence, via Fort Goodwin, on the Gila river, to Tucson and Tubac, thence—if I can obtain transportation and protection—by way of the Pima Villages, to Prescott and Fort Mojave, and return to Santa Fe by the Whipple or Beale road. If I shall be enabled to make the reconnoissance contemplated I shall be absent about three months. During my absence I leave this Office in charge of Mr. David J. Miller, Translator.

After reaching Tucson I will forward to your Office, from time to time, such information as I may obtain concerning the objects of my journey.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Tubac, Arizona, March 13, 1865.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:—

I left Santa Fe on the 7th of January in the stage for Las Cruces, where I arrived on the 12th of the same month, expecting to proceed thence on the 16th, by way of Fort Bowie and Fort Goodwin, to this place; but Major J. C. Staples, Paymaster U.S.A. (who had kindly invited me to join his party, and under whose protection I proposed to travel), was unavoidably detained, so that I was unable to leave Las Cruces until the 1st of February, on which day we took our departure with an escort of sixteen cavalry, and proceeded to Fort Cummings, sixty miles, on the road to Tucson, where we remained four days, detained partly by a snow-storm which lasted two days and nights. This post is situated at Cook's Spring, a noted place at the mouth of Cook's Cañon, on the east side of a low range of mountains which forms the eastern rim of the basin and valley of the Mimbres river and Lake Guzman, and which connects, on the north and southwest, with the Sierra Madre.

Leaving Fort Cummings on the 5th February we proceeded west, still along the old overland mail route, to Fort Bowie, one hundred and ten miles, where we arrived on the 14th. Remaining over the 15th, on the 16th we left Fort Bowie. Retracing our route eighteen miles to the San Simon (Santo Domingo on the map), thence our route was down that valley northwesterly sixty miles to the Gila river, thence down the Gila a little more to the west twenty miles to a point opposite Fort Goodwin, thence northwesterly up the valley of the Tucarosa two and a half miles to the fort, which we reached on the 25th, and remained there until the 29th. I was confined to the limits of the post by rain and snow and the impassable condition of the whole country thereabout during my stay, and could not for that reason examine the country in that neighborhood as I intended.

We left Fort Goodwin, and returned by the same route to Fort Bowie. Remaining over one day we proceeded thence, by the old Tucson road, to a point sixteen miles from Tucson, thence turning to the left, continuing nearly west, we crossed the Santa Cruz river about a mile below above the old mission and church of San Xavier del Bac, thence following up the valley of the Santa Cruz, on the west side, arrived here yesterday — distance from Fort Bowie one hundred and fifty miles.

Excepting in the valleys of the Mimbres, the Gila, the San Pedro and Santa Cruz I have hardly seen an acre of arable land west of the Rio Grande. The valley of the Mimbres I described in the report of my reconnoissance in 1863. The Gila river leaves a cañon about twenty-five miles above where I first saw it on my way to Fort Goodwin, and runs in an open valley for about one hundred miles to the mouth of the San Carlos, where it again cañons for many miles through the Pinaleño mountains. The Gila here is a fine, bold running stream, affording sufficient water throughout the year to irrigate the rich bottom lands bordering it. A short distance below the head of this open valley and extending along the Gila for several miles are the ruins of an old pueblo and irrigating canals still traceable. Broken pottery is scattered over the ground amid these ruins and also in many places below, indicating that the valley was once densely populated by a people who resided in houses and possessed some of the arts of civilization. The timber consists of cottonwood along the stream and on the lowgrounds, and of mesquit on the uplands extending to the mesa. Upon the mountains south there is cedar, and, it is said, also pine in the ravines. The Burro mountains above the San Simon and Mount Graham, San Marcia & Mount Turnbull bound the valley on the south from fifteen to twenty-five miles distant; on the north there appears to be a continuous range of mountains paralleled with the river; the foot-hills approaching very near it.

It has been proposed to attempt a settlement of the Apaches of Arizona upon a reserve on the Gila river. If this should be the final determination of the Interior Department, no more central point nor more suitable place could be selected than this valley, making the east boundary of the reservation the foot of the Cañon above Pueblo Viejo, and extending down the river as far as necessary to include sufficient arable land for their use.

Fort Goodwin is situated in about latitude 33° 10′ and longitude 110°, on the Tularosa, a small stream rising in a fine spring about half a mile above the post and sinking before it reaches the Gila, about three miles distant. It is favorably situated as a base of operations against the Apaches. Fort Bowie is situated in a pass of the Chiricahua mountains, in about latitude 32° 10′ and longitude 109° 25′. There is here a fine spring of water sufficient for the use of the post, which, however, sinks after running a few yards.

The San Pedro, which I crossed sixty miles west of Fort Bowie, is a stream about twenty links wide, rapid, and now of considerable depth, but in the dry season of course much diminished in size. It runs in a deep valley east of and parallel with the Santa Catarina range of mountains. The alluvial bottoms bordering this stream are dry, and average about one mile in width, a considerable portion of which could be cultivated. The mesas east and west of the river are covered with grama grass, affording excellent pasturage throughout the year, rendering this one of the best stock-growing regions I have seen — the San Pedro furnishing at all seasons sufficient water for stock. The only timber along the San Pedro at and near the crossing is mesquit, which is sufficient for fuel. It is said that as the stream approaches the Gila it is better timbered, having cottonwood and some ash and walnut, and that near the Sonora line there is also cottonwood.

The Santa Cruz river at San Xavier del Bac is now a fine stream, of fifteen links wide, running in a wide valley well timbered with mesquit and some cottonwood. The mesquit is here larger than I have seen it elsewhere, resembling a forest of scrubby oak in winter. The stream affords but little water during the dry season below Tubac, but it is said that crops of corn and wheat mature without irrigation along the valley, and that water for stock, &c., can everywhere be easily procured by digging a few feet in or near the dry channel. This valley from Tucson to the Sonora line contains a large amount of excellent land for settlement and cultivation. I noticed on the way from San Xavier many abandoned ranchos — the rancheros having been driven away and their improvements destroyed by the Apaches. At one ranch were the graves of seven of these unfortunates, killed by the Indians.

Tubac is an old Mexican town, said to have been a Pima village when the Spaniards first came to this country, and afterwards occupied by the Jesuits as an appendage to their mission of Tumacacori, about three miles above. The church at this old mission is still standing, but somewhat dilapidated by time. Tubac was entirely abandoned, in 1861, after the protection of our troops was withdrawn, and there are now but five or six Mexican families here. The place is now garrisoned by one company of California volunteers, affording some protection to the miners in the vicinity.

The whole of our territory south of the Gila river, except the valleys I have described and a few other unimportant ones, is an elevated table land, intersected by mountain ranges trending almost uniformly to the northwest and southeast, with low passes through them, giving them the appearance of isolated mountains rising from 1000 to 4000 feet above the level of the plain. Gold, silver, copper, lead and iron, and other metals and minerals, are found in all these mountain ranges which have been explored, and undoubtedly some of them may be found in each separate mountain throughout this extensive region.

I have obtained from Mr. Claude Jones, Esq., of this place, and of Mr. Gregory P. Hart, of Tucson, statements respecting the mines now being worked south of the Gila, which I copy and forward herewith.

Since operations were recommenced by these several mining companies a few months since, the labor has been chiefly bestowed in opening the mines, erecting machinery, buildings, &c., and but little silver has been produced, but the ores are abundant and rich, and great results are expected by the owners when they shall be prepared to reduce them. The works at the Santa Rita mines will, I am informed, be suspended for a time, on account of the death of Mr. H. Wrightson (whom I believe you knew), who was killed by the Apaches about a month since.

The great obstacle to the development of the mineral wealth of Arizona, as also of New-Mexico, is the hostility of the Apache Indians. It is not safe anywhere throughout this vast region for individuals or small parties to travel or attempt to work the mines. The Apaches may be met at any moment—they have no abiding place, but roam about, in small parties, from one fastness in the mountains to another, and, whenever they are in sufficient force and can take our people at advantage, they attack, and the weaker party falls.

While at Las Cruces I employed a portion of my time in examining the records of Doña Ana county and in questioning parties who were best informed, for the purpose of ascertaining the extent and validity of claims to lands under grants from the Republic of Mexico in the valley of the Rio Grande below Fort Craig. I made copious notes of the information gathered from these sources, all of which I sent by mail to Santa Fe. On my return I will forward to your Office the result of my inquiries. I have also

made inquiries here of old residents informed upon this subject, and am surprised to find that but a small portion of the valleys of the San Pedro and Santa Cruz is claimed under grants from Spain or Mexico. The legislature of this Territory has passed a law requiring all claims to lands under grants from Spain or Mexico to be recorded, within the present year, in the office of the recorder of the county where the land claimed is situated, in default of which claimants are debarred the privilege of maintaining actions for their possession in any of the courts of this Territory. This will probably bring to light all of these claims, and it will then be possible to determine approximately how much of the land in this region is public domain.

Until the Indians are disposed of I shall enter into no contracts for surveying the public lands in any portion of this district South of the Gila.

I leave here on the 16th instant for Prescott, and expect to go thence directly to Santa Fe — hoping to arrive at the latter place from 1st to 15th May. This reconnoissance is occupying more time than I anticipated, but I have been unable to move more rapidly. I can only travel with a strong escort, and therefore remain with Major Staples, who goes from here to pay the troops at Fort Whipple (near Prescott), and thence to Los Pinos on the Rio Grande.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General New Mexico and Arizona.

Copy of Statement
Respecting the Mines of Arizona South of the Gila River, by W. Claude Jones, Esq., of Tubac, Arizona.

Cerro Colorado.

This rich silver mine is owned by the Arizona Mining Company, California, Mo. O. Davidson Superintendent and Director. They are engaged in sinking several shafts in the main vein and on neighboring veins and newly discovered mines in the vicinity. The number of hands now employed amounts to about 120. Situated 21 miles west of Tubac.

Enriquetta Mine.

Belongs to the Enriquetta Gold Company, 32 Pine Street, N. York, and is worked under the same superintendent and director. This company has the machinery for the reduction of the ore, and are now putting it up. They have many tons of rich metal ready for reduction. There are several small mines in the vicinity worked on a small scale by the Mexicans that are rich and pay well.

Calabasas Mining District.

These mines lie near sixty miles northwest of Cerro Colorado, and the rich vein of the Picacho is now being worked by Messrs. Geyer, Halstead & Co. with good success: they have about forty men employed.

The Mowry Silver Mine

Is now in active operation under the temporary superintendence of Mr. S. Warner. It belongs to a San Francisco company. They have about 140 men employed, and are extracting silver of good quality and large quantities of lead—the ore of the mine being argentiferous galena. This mine is situated forty miles southeast of Tubac. There are several rich mines in the vicinity, but they are not actively worked.

The San Antonio Mine.

This silver mine is situated near the boundary (of Sonora) twelve miles south of the Mowry mine. It is now being successfully worked under the superintendence of Mr. Thos. M. Yates. He has about sixty men employed, and is extracting some rich ores.

Huebavi Mines.

These goldbearing quartz mines are situated on the Santa Cruz river sixteen miles above Tubac and three above Calabazas. They are owned by H. Claude Jones, and are now being actively worked under the superintendence of Gabriel Saavedra, who is running arastras by water power. The number of hands employed is twenty-three.

Santa Rita Mines.

These rich silver mines lie fourteen miles east of Tubac, near the base of the Santa Rita mountains. Preparations were made to work and develope these mines under the late Mr. W. Wrightson, Superintendent: but his melancholy and untimely death at the hands of the Apaches has partially suspended operations. There are now in the mines about twenty persons employed, under the superintendence of Doctor Locke.

Patero Mines.

These mines are situated about sixteen miles above Tubac and three miles west of Huebavi. There are now some half dozen men employed in developing them.

Numerous other and rich mines are lying idle in this district. The scourge of the Apaches and want of protection have retarded and are still retarding the active development of the resources of the country.

Copy of Statement

Respecting Mines in the Vicinity of Tucson, by Mr. Gregory P. Harte, of Tucson, Arizona.

Tucson Mining District.

The mining operations of this district are confined to the developments of newly discovered mines. Among the most prominent of these mines may be mentioned the copper vein of Mess. Oury, Warner and associates.— The La Paz vein owned by Messrs Oury, Pacheco, Ochoa and associates.— The Buena Vista vein owned by Pedro Biazzi and associates.— And La Mina Purísima owned by Messrs. Caprron, Harte and associates.

The copper mine of Messrs. Oury, Warner & Co. can be traced on the surface about 400 yards, width of vein at 22 feet (the depth of the shaft) 5 feet; 40 per cent. copper average; work now progressing.

The La Paz mine of Messrs. Oury, Pacheco, Ochoa & Co. is a silver mine of about four feet width on the surface— large amounts of metal in sight— pays about $600 to the ton— work now progressing.

The Buena Vista mine, owned by Pedro Biazzi & Co., is of argentiferous galena, assaying about $90 to the ton in silver, per centage of lead not known; very wide vein, and being actively worked.

La Mina Purísima— silver lead— 4½ feet wide— perpendicular— visible on the surface 1600 yards— worked commenced, but now stopped for want of proper tools— pays to the ton $85 silver as worked with arastras.

The Copper Mine from Tucson		S.W. 8 miles.
La Paz Mine	" "	W. 24 "
Buena Vista	" "	W. 24 "
La Purísima	" "	N. 15 "

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
May 19, 1865.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to report that I arrived at Santa Fé from Arizona this morning, and that at the earliest day practicable I will forward to your Office a detailed report of my reconnoissance from Dubac via the Pima Villages,

Wickenburg and Prescott — thence to the Rio Grande.

I addressed your Office from Tubac about the 18th of March, requesting that a draft for my salary for the quarter ending on 31st March last might be forwarded to Messrs. Robert Campbell & Co., St. Louis, Mo. I have not been advised of its receipt at St. Louis, and fear my letter may not have been received. If the draft has not been forwarded I have to request that you will send it as above.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General of New Mexico and Arizona.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
May 27, 1865.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:— I have the honor to enclose the accounts and vouchers for expenses incurred in this Office during the quarter ending March 31, 1865.

I am, Sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Sur. General New Mexico and Arizona.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
May 27, 1865

Hon. James M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose an account of the necessary traveling expenses incurred and paid by me on my recent reconnoissance trip in Arizona.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Sur. Gen. N. Mexico and Arizona.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
June 3, 1865.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:— Enclosed herewith I forward for settlement the approved account of David J. Miller for his services as Clerk in this Office during the current quarter up to the 31st ultimo. Mr. Miller on the 1st instant resumed his duties as Translator in this Office.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
June 3, 1865.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:— I have to acknowledge the receipt on the 1st instant of your circular letter of 30th March last, advising this Office of the failure of appropriations for extension of the public surveys, and requesting report of the exact amount of balance of regular appropriations, and also of sums deposited, &c.

There has been no money deposited in this Office by any party to cover expenses of surveys under act of Congress approved May 30, 1862.

There remains unexpended of the appropriations of which this Office was advised by your letter of August 1, 1864, as follows:—

Total sum applicable for field service in this district as advised August 1, 1864	$25,000.00
To which is chargeable expenses of Surveyor General as per his account forwarded with his letter of May 29, 1865	315.50
Leaving balance of	$24,684.50

This balance is now applicable to the prosecution of the field work in this district.

I am, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
May 24, 1865.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:—

In my letter to your Office from Tubac dated 13th March last, I gave you some account of my journey and of the character of the country through which I had passed up to that date. On the 14th of March in company with Doctor Locke, of the Santa Rita Mining Company, and several other gentlemen, I visited the Cerro Colorado mines, about twenty-one miles westwardly from Tubac.— M. O. Davidson, Esq., Superintendent, kindly furnished me with every facility for examining the mines and works, and gave me all the information asked concerning them. The Arizona Mining Company, the owners of these mines, are erecting reduction works here, and will soon be in readiness to commence reducing the rich ores of the "Heintzelman" and numerous other veins in this vicinity. The Enriquetta Mining Company, under the same superintendence, are also erecting works at the Enriquetta mines, about fifteen miles southwest from the Cerro Colorado. I was shown some very rich ores from these mines, but did not visit them. The superintendent has had a telegraph line erected, connecting these two mining haciendas — the first and only line of telegraph in that Territory: there is none in New Mexico.

I returned to Tubac on the 15th, and on the 16th left that place for Prescott. My route was down the valley of the Santa Cruz, retracing the way travelled to Tubac, to a point about two miles above the San Xavier church; thence, continuing down the valley, at two miles the old mission and church of San Xavier. This church — which has so often been described in official reports and journals of travellers — begins to show signs of neglect and decay. Built of brick, with arched roof, covered with cement, and without a beam or stick of timber, the Jesuits intended it as a monument, to last for all time, of their energy, skill and religious zeal. Considering that it has remained in the unskilful hands of the Papago Indians for nearly a century, it is in a most remarkable state of preservation; but now the cement begins to fall from the walls, and the arched roof is cracked so as to admit the rain, and, unless repaired, it will soon be in ruins.— Around the church there is a considerable town of Papago Indians, who cultivate the lands in the neighborhood and seem to be prosperous and happy.

Still following the valley of the Santa Cruz I reached Tucson nine miles from San Xavier. There is little cultivation after leaving

the Papago fields until we reach the immediate neighborhood of Tucson. Fear of the Indians prevents settlements outside of the town. I noticed many vacant buildings in Tucson: evidently the place is not flourishing. From Tucson my route was still down the valley of the Santa Cruz. At about seven miles from Tucson the water disappears from the river, and from here to its junction with the Gila, below the Pima Villages—except upon rare occasions—there is no water in its bed. Eighteen miles from Tucson I finally left this valley, the road diverging towards the east, but continuing in nearly a northwest direction to the Gila river, which I reached at Maxatan Station, eighty-seven miles from Tucson and eleven and a half miles above "Casa Blanca"; thence, diverging a little towards the south from the river, my course for twenty-three miles, to Maricopa Wells, was nearly west. Here I left the old Overland mail route, which I had followed from Tucson, and took the trail for Prescott, which runs nearly north, six miles to the Gila river. I found the river very high, but, fortunately, some parties at Wickenburg had built and sent down a small boat, in which we succeeded in crossing the wagons and baggage: the horses and mules swam safely over. From the crossing we proceeded down the river, twenty miles, to the Rio Salado—a beautiful stream, clear and rapid, now about ten chains in width. The boat in which we crossed the Gila was brought down to the mouth of the Salado and up that river, about twenty chains, to the point of crossing, and we crossed safely our wagons and baggage without much detention.

Immediately opposite the mouth of the Salado, on the south side of the Gila, there is a conical hill about one hundred and fifty feet in height, upon the pinnacle of which Mr. Bartlett, in making the survey of the boundary line under the treaty with Mexico of Guadalupe Hidalgo, established a corner "to mark the mouth of Salt River." I visited this monument, and found it compactly built of stone, circular, about eight feet diameter at the base, four feet at the top, and eight feet high, with a post four inches in diameter projecting from the centre of the top about six feet, upon which is marked: "United States and Mexican Boundary Survey, 1851.—This monument erected in 1851 to mark the junction of the Gila and Salt Rivers.—A. R. Gray, U.S. Surveyor." The hill upon which this monument is erected is in fact a part of a short mountain range which extends southeasterly from this point, called the "Sierra de la Estrella," but is separated therefrom by a narrow valley. It is a mass of igneous rocks, and forms of itself a remarkable landmark; and, being situated immediately opposite the mouth of the Salado or Salt river—the geographical position of which has been determined*—and, with respect to the arable land of Arizona, being very central, I have selected it as the initial point

* Note.—The geographical position of the monument referred to, as ascertained by Major W. H. Emory, U. S. Top. Engrs., is, latitude 33° 22′ 57″, longitude 112° 15′ 46″.

for the Meridian of that Territory—subject to your approval.

From the crossing of the Salado my route was nearly northwest. At three miles crossed the Agua Fria—now dry—the bed of which is fully two hundred yards wide, showing that occasionally great floods sweep down from the mountains through its channel. At about forty-two miles reached the Hassayampa river. This is now a fine running stream, but at this point is usually dry—permanent water is found about three miles above. From this point I followed up the bed of the river about ten miles, the stream for most of that distance running in a cañon. At twelve miles—or fifty-four miles from the crossing of Salt river—I reached the new mining town of Wickenburg. At this place and in the immediate vicinity there are in operation over fifty arrastras for reducing gold bearing quartz, with a working capacity of about sixty tons per week. The quartz being worked here is from the "Vulturo" lode, situated about fifteen miles southwesterly from the town. I remained over one day here, and visited this very remarkable lode. The vein or deposite is of a light colored goldbearing quartz. At what seems to be the central point, for a distance northwesterly and southeasterly of three hundred feet or more, it is a hill or dyke of quartz fully fifty feet above the surrounding level, and from fifty to one hundred feet across at the base. The vein extends northwardly and southerly from this hill for a considerable distance, cropping out in places, and, wherever worked, has been found equally rich with the central deposite, but it is nowhere ascertained to be as broad as here. Many specimens, very rich in gold, were shown me, taken from this vein, and I broke off from different places on the hill pieces of quartz showing particles of gold. It is estimated by the parties interested that the quartz in the entire hill and for an indefinite distance below will yield at least fifty dollars per ton of gold. Other veins near and parallel with the great vein are found, also rich in gold. Traces of silver and copper are found in all these veins.

Wickenburg contains a population of two to three hundred persons, nearly all engaged in mining. It is situated on the right bank of the Hassayampa river, which, at this point, is usually dry, but an abundance of excellent water is found by digging.

My route was still up the bed of the Hassayampa from Wickenburg for ten miles, thence leaving it; but continuing about the same course northwest, eight miles, reached a point at the foot of the mountain referred to in my letter of September 24, 1863, as having upon its summit the very rich placer worked then by Mr. Jack Swilling. This placer has since been exhausted and abandoned. The town of Weaver is situated at the foot of this mountain, about two miles east from this point. My route from this point was about due north for forty-five miles, thence describing nearly a semicircle to the eastward, around "Granite"

mountain, I reached Prescott on the 8th of April.

I remained at Prescott and in that vicinity seventeen days, the most of my time being occupied in examination of the mines. Much less has been accomplished in the development of these mines since my visit in 1863 than I expected. The want of sufficient protection against the hostile Indians, scarcity and exhorbitant price of food and of everything required by the miner, scarcity of water to wash gold from the placers, and absence of machinery to reduce the gold bearing quartz and the silver and copper ores, have operated to retard the settlement of this portion of Arizona.

I visited many lodes of goldbearing quartz and of silver and copper ore in the "Hassayampa", "Quartz Mountain", "Walker" and "Turkey Creek" mining districts, and have examined specimens of quartz and ores taken from not less than fifty different localities — a majority of these specimens were of goldbearing quartz. Many of them upon being broken exhibited gold, and others, when powdered and washed, produced a good result of fine gold. The silver ores I did not see apaged or tested in any manner, but was informed by Mr. Charles Borger, apayer at Prescott, that the "Benedict", "Goodwin", and many other veins, are exceedingly rich in silver, many of them yielding also a good per centage of gold.

Prescott, the present seat of government of Arizona, is located on Granite creek, immediately opposite the point where I made my camp in 1863. The town consists of fifty or sixty houses, mostly built of hewn logs. The streets are regularly laid out. The site for a town is well selected. The ground from the creek has a gradual ascent towards the southwest sufficient for drainage. An abundance of excellent water is obtained by digging, and timber for building purposes, of the best quality, and for fuel, surrounds the town. It is of easy access, both from the east and west, by good natural roads, and, if the seat of government remains here, I see no reason why it should not become a considerable town.

The people in this vicinity in May, 1864, met together and selected this town site, and elected three commissioners "to represent the interests of the general government and those of the citizens of the Territory in the laying out, appraisement and disposition of the lots, in accordance with the said act of Congress" — referring to act of Congress approved March 2, 1863, entitled "An act for increasing the revenue by reservation and sale of town sites on public land." I obtained a copy of the record kept by these commissioners of their proceedings. Judge Brooks, one of the Commissioners and treasurer of the board, promised to send me me also a copy of the plat of the town. When I receive the plat, I will forward copies of the whole to your Office, with such suggestions and recommendations as the case shall seem to require.

Fort Whipple is situated about one mile below Prescott, on the right bank of Granite creek. It is a pleasant and convenient two company post, with corrals, quarters, &c., quite complete. One company of New Mexican Vols. and one company 8th U. S. Inf. are stationed here, Captain John Thompson, 1st N. Mex. Vols., commanding.

I left Prescott on 20th April for Santa Fe via Fort Wingate and Los Pinos. I followed almost precisely the same track made by me in 1863, nearly one hundred miles, to the Whipple or Beale road, and thence by that road—which I also followed in 1863—to the Rio Grande, thence to Santa Fe, where I arrived on 19th instant, as I advised you by letter of that date.

In former letters and reports to your Office I have freely given my opinion of the mineral wealth of Arizona. In my late tour I have had a better opportunity than ever before of judging of the extent of these mineral resources, and am gratified in being able to say that I have nothing to retract of all I have written upon the subject. Labor, capital and machinery are only required to be properly applied to prove to the world that I have rather underestimated than overstated the numbers and great richness of these mines.

The general impression with regard to Arizona is, that it is a region made up of arid deserts, covered with an endless variety of cactus and other thorny plants and shrubs, and barren rocky mountains. This is true to a certain extent; it is true of a considerable portion of the country over which the old Overland mail route passes; it is also true of a good part of the route over which the Beale or Whipple road passes: but it is not true of the Territory as a whole. The valleys of the Gila, Salado, San Francisco and Colorado rivers, with their affluents, under proper culture, would produce bread for more than two millions of people. Horses, cattle and sheep, almost without limit, may be pastured upon the plains and mountains during the entire year, so that there is never any necessity for providing food for stock not in use: nature does this abundantly. Nearly all of the arable land, therefore, may be cultivated to produce food for man. I estimate the irrigable land of Arizona at not less than one million of acres. Upon at least one third of it two crops each year may be grown, viz: a crop of wheat or barley, to be succeeded by corn, beans, &c. A very large portion of these lands will grow cotton and sugarcane. In cultivating the lands along the Colorado, Gila and Salado rivers, it will require the united action of many persons or large capital to dig the necessary canals and erect the dams to divert the water from the beds of these rivers. Coöperation in these matters will of course follow the settlements of the valleys; and, as there shall be demand in the adjacent mines for their wheat and barley, cotton, tobacco and sugar, the farmers will use the necessary means to supply it.

The Indians — except the Pueblos — throughout the Territory are at open war with us, rendering it unsafe for single persons or small parties to travel, and equally unsafe for farmers and miners to pursue their avocations, unless in numbers sufficient to meet and fight them. Stock cannot safely be left at large an hour without a guard — indeed, there is little stock left to the people: the Indians have stolen nearly all that has been taken to the country.

General Mason has been ordered to the Territory with between two and three thousand men, and it is hoped that during the present year he will chastise and subdue the Indians, and give such protection to the country as that, peaceful immigrants may be attracted thitherward, and the resources of the Territory be developed.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Sur. Gen. New Mexico and Arizona.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
June 6, 1865

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir: — Considering the very high prices of labor and food in New Mexico and Arizona, I think the maximum rates of compensation to be paid to deputy surveyors for surveying the public lands, fixed by your letter of May 24, 1862, are too low, and have to suggest that the following rates be established in this district, viz:—

For meridian, base and standard lines	$13.00 per mile
For township lines	11.00 "
For subdivision lines	9.00 "

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
June 7, 1865.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:— I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy of the application — approved by this Office — of John S. Watts, Esq., as attorney for the heirs of Luis Maria Baca, to relocate, under and in accordance with the provisions of the act of Congress approved June 11, 1864, the one-fifth part of the private claim confirmed to said heirs.

The tract of land described in the application is far beyond any of the public surveys, and I know personally nothing whatever about it, nor have I any information concerning it, except the statement in the application of Judge Watts, a copy of which is enclosed. There is no evidence in this Office that the tract located as above is mineral or that it is occupied, nor any record relating to it of any character whatever.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark
Surveyor General,
Of New Mexico and Arizona.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
June 8, 1865.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:— I have to acknowledge the receipt, yesterday, of your circular letter of May 11, 1865, and, in part compliance therewith, have the honor to enclose herewith estimates of appropriations for surveying service in this district during the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1867.

The estimates for extending the public surveys are made upon the supposition that the unexpended balance of appropriations will remain applicable to the prosecution of the field work.

I hope that within the current year the Indians will be so far subdued in this district that operations in the field may be resumed. There are settlements on the Bonito and Rondo rivers near Fort Stanton, and on the Tularosa about forty miles south of that post. There are also settlements at Pinos Altos and on the Mimbres. I propose to ex-

tend the surveys to embrace these settlements. This will involve the extension of the Second and Third Correction Lines, south, east one hundred miles, the running of probably two hundred miles of exterior township lines, and the subdivision of eight or ten townships—in all about one thousand miles east of the meridian. To reach Pinos Altos and the Mimbres settlements the Third and Fourth Correction Lines south will require to be extended west about seventy-five miles, and township and subdivision lines run to the extent of about three hundred and fifty miles.

In Arizona the Meridian should be run and established for a distance of two hundred and sixty miles—i. e., south from the initial point to the Sonora line, and north about one hundred and fifty miles; and the Base Line for a distance of one hundred miles; and two standard lines north and two south of the Base Line, viz:—One commencing at the meridian near the south boundary of the Territory and running east to the San Pedro river—one commencing at the corner of townships five and six south and running east to the San Pedro and west to the Colorado—third, commencing at the corner of townships ten and eleven north and running east to the San Francisco river and west to the Colorado—and the fourth to commence at the corner of townships twenty and twenty-one north and run east to the Colorado Chiquito and west to the Colorado—in all I estimate eleven hundred miles of Meridian, Base and Standard or Correction Lines.

There are settlements in the valleys of the Colorado, Gila, San Francisco, Bill Williams Fork and Santa Cruz, and soon will be in the San Pedro and Salado valleys, to which the public surveys should be extended. To include these I think it will be necessary to run the exterior lines of twenty townships and to subdivide ten townships.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor-General.

Estimates

Of Appropriations required for the Office of the Surveyor General of New Mexico and Arizona for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1867.

On Salary Account.

Compensation of	Amounts		Remarks.
Surveyor General.....	$3,000	00	Compensation fixed by the organic act of July 22, 1854.
Translator.....	2,000	00	To perform also the duties of Chief Clerk.
Draughtsman.....	1,750	00	To be also computer of Surveys.
	$6,750	00	

On Surveying and Incidental Expense Account.

Object of the Appropriation.	Amounts.	
For Public Surveys—continuing Survey of Base, Meridian, Township and Subdivision Lines in New Mexico.....	$7,500	00
For Public Surveys—Survey of Base, Meridian, Township and Subdivision Lines in Arizona.....	10,000	00
For Fuel, Office Rent, Stationery and Incidental Expenses.....	1,000	00
For Messenger and Watchman.....	200	00
	$18,700	00

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
June 8, 1865.

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General N. Mexico & Arizona.

Despacho del Agrimensor General,
Santa Fé, y Junio 30 de 1865.

Al señor Don Antonio Santillanes.

Muy señor mio.— Respondiendo á la interrogacion de V. acerca de la poblacion del Alamozo y las tierras sin ocupar inmediatas á la plaza de San Ygnacio, le digo que ningun individuo puede adquirir derecho alguno bajo las leyes de privilegio y de domicilio de los Estados Unidos, á cualquier pedazo de terreno nacional, á menos que actualmente resida en y cultive el mismo.

Soy de V. su atento servidor,
John A. Clark, Agrimensor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
June 30, 1865.

Hon. J. W. Edmunds, Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir.— Herewith enclosed I have the honor to forward to your Office the approved account of David J. Miller for his services as translator during the month of June, of John B. Lamy for rent of Office during the quarter ending today, and of my own advances of cash to meet the current expenses incident to the administration of the office during the same period, and also a tabular statement of the accounts approved and sent to the General Land Office during and at the close of the fiscal quarter ending this day.

I am, Sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Sur. General of N. Mexico and Arizona.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
June 30, 1865.

Hon. J. W. Edmunds, Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir.— Enclosed herewith please find my semi-annual Property Return for the term ending this day.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 1st 1865

Hon. J. W. Edmunds
Commr. of General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Sir

Please direct that, a draft on the assistant Treasurer, New York, in payment of my salary for the quarter ending yesterday, be forwarded to Messrs. Robert Campbell & Co St Louis Missouri

I am respectfully your obt. serv.

John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 8. 1865

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. of General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, on this day, of your letter of 9th ult. concerning pre-emption claims in the Territory of Arizona, and the duties of this office in connection therewith.

Very respectfully your obt. svt
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
August 5th 1865

Hon J. M. Edmunds
Commr. of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, by the mail yesterday, of your letter of 14th June, enclosing a copy of an order made by the President of the United States on the 9th June, and a copy of a letter of the Secretary of the Interior dated 12th of the same month, concerning the enlargement in New Mexico of Indian Captives

I am very respectfully your
Obedient servant
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
August 14, 1865.

Hon: A. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D. C.

Sir:—

I have this day mailed to your address, in a separate package, my Annual Report, prepared as required by your letter of the 11th May last, together with certain papers accompanying the same, marked respectively A, B, C and D, all in duplicate.

Very respectfully, your obedient Servant,

John A. Clark,
Sur. General N. Mexico & Arizona.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
August 21, 1865.

Hon A M Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:— In my letter to your office of March 13, 1865, from Tubac, Arizona, I inadvertently wrote "Santa Catarina" instead of Pinaleño in saying of the Gila river that "it runs in an open valley about one hundred miles to mouth of the San Carlos, where it again cañons for many miles through the Santa Catarina mountains." Allow me to request that you have the word corrected, both in the original letter and in the copy of it, marked document A, accompanying my annual report mailed last week. It occurs in the fourth paragraph of the original, and at the close of the second or beginning of the third page of the copy referred to.

After mailing the report I also discovered, in the Office record of the same letter, that Mount Turnbull had been erroneously copied thereinto as Mount "Trumbull". Of course the mistake was carried into the copy of that record, document A. It will be found some fifteen lines forward of the error above cited, and on the third page of the copy forwarded — and I have to request that you have it corrected before the manuscript is filed away or goes into the hands of the printer.

Please advise me of the fact when these corrections shall have been made in your Office, so that the corresponding ones may be made here.

Very respectfully, your obedient Servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
August 17, 1865.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D. C.

Sir:—I have to request that you will inform this Office whether the papers relating to the private claim, No. 40, Jose Serafin Ramirez, and No. 39, of Gervacio Nolan, forwarded from this office with annual report of September 15, 1860, are on file in the General Land office.

Mr. Ramirez has been advised that search was made in your office last winter for the papers relating to his case, and that they could not be found.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
September 2d 1865

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr of the General Land Office
Washington D.C.

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt by the mail yesterday, of your notice dated 29th July, of my reappointment as Surveyor General of the District of New Mexico, enclosing a blank bond and four blank affidavits for sureties

I will execute and return the bond at the earliest day practicable

Very respectfully your
Obedt Servt

John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
September 2, 1865.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:—

In my letter to you from Tucson of 13th March last, I referred to some examinations which I had made of the records of Doña Ana county in this Territory relating to private claims to land in the valley of the Rio Grande below Fort Craig, and to information obtained from persons residing in that part of the country upon the same subject, and promised on my return to Santa Fé to report to your office the result of my investigations. This I should have done long since, but the clerk of the probate Court of Doña Ana county, under the direction of the Judge, undertook to procure the original record kept by Ramon Ortiz, commissioner of the State of Chihuahua "for the regulation and distribution of tracts and lots of land in the new settlements thereof", of his official acts as such, and to forward to this office a memorandum giving the name of each grantee, size and location of the grant, date of certificate, &c.— giving a complete synopsis of the record. The clerk when last heard from had not succeeded in procuring the record, and of course has failed to forward me the memorandum promised. I therefore wait no longer, but communicate the information collected as above.

Cura Ramon Ortiz, who claimed to act under a commission from the State of Chihuahua as above, granted a large number of tracts of land to colonists in the Mesilla Valley, viz: In that part of the valley of the Rio Grande south of latitude 32° 22', the boundary line agreed upon between Mr. Bartlett, commissioner on the part of the United States, and the Mexican commissioner, under the treaty with Mexico of Guadalupe Hidalgo.

Forty three of these grants are recorded in the office of the clerk of the probate court of Doña Ana county (who is ex-officio register of land) calling for tracts of various sizes, averaging about forty-two acres each. With few exceptions they are nine hundred and sixty varas in length, by three hundred and twenty, two hundred and forty or one hundred and ninety-two varas in width. Nine hundred and sixty varas being precisely equal to forty chains, the grants are almost uniformly aliquot parts of the quarter section: the boundaries, however, are not run to the cardinal points, but are intended to be as nearly as practicable parallel with and at right angles to the river. These certificates are all dated in August, 1851.

Guadalupe Miranda, who claims to have succeeded Ortiz as commissioner, and who professes also to have been commissioner of the Supreme Government of Mexico, issued, in May, 1857, thirteen grants, averaging over

fifty acres of land each, and on and after 10th March, 1854, he issued fifty-five, averaging about forty acres each, and two hundred and thirty eight for town lots in the town of La Mesilla.

Ortiz having retained, after his removal from office, the record of his proceedings as commissioner, it is unknown how many grants were made by him. It is said that some of the grants made by Miranda are for lands previously granted by Ortiz.

I enclose herewith a translation of a copy of Miranda's certificate giving the boundaries of the colony of La Mesilla, and also of one of his grants or certificates, and of one of the grants or certificates issued by Ortiz: all that I have seen of the grants or certificates issued by the commissioners respectively are of similar character.

Frank Higgins, Esq., an attorney of La Mesilla, furnished me with a statement from which I glean the following:

The grant to the Colony of Doña Ana, made by the State of Chihuahua in the year 1843, is about sixteen miles in length along the left bank of the Rio Grande, and from one to three miles in width of irrigable land, and one league in width of mesa for pasturage, &c. This grant includes the town of Doña Ana, containing about one thousand souls, Las Cruces, with a population of about two thousand, Tortugas, about two hundred and fifty, and the Ranchos, about three hundred souls.

La Mesilla was settled in 1850. The colony grant embraces the towns of Picacho and La Mesilla, and extends from Bartlett's line (the boundary line established by Bartlett and the Mexican commissioner under the treaty with Mexico of Guadalupe Hidalgo) to a point two miles below the town of La Mesilla—say ten miles in length, averaging two and a half miles in width, bounded on the east by the right bank of the Rio Grande and on the west by the Mesa.

The town of La Mesilla covers nine hundred and sixty varas square, or one quarter section of land, and contains about fifteen hundred people. Picacho contains, with surrounding ranchos, about one thousand people. Town lots are fifty by one hundred varas.

The town of La Mesa is on public land—embraces about two hundred ranchos of eighty acres each, contains about five hundred people, and extends ten or twelve miles along the right bank of the river.

Santo Tomas, situated between La Mesilla and La Mesa, is about four miles in length, was first settled in 1852, and has a population of about two hundred and fifty souls.

Amolas was settled in 1857, contains one league of irrigable land and one league of pastorab—also west of the Rio Grande.

Private Grants.

One league granted by Commissioner Miranda in May, 1853, to

Cristoval Sanchez between Santo Tomas and La Mesa.

Four leagues granted by Spain fifty or sixty years ago to Jose Maria Garcia, below Mesilla.

One league granted by the State of Chihuahua, in 1852, to Guadalupe Miranda, below Garcia's grant and near the Mexican boundary.

The Stephenson grant (confirmed by Congress), on left bank of Rio Grande, three or four leagues in extent.

Three or four leagues granted to Barrio on left bank of Rio Grande, partly in Texas and partly in New Mexico.

The claim of Juan B. Vigil and others, called the "Jornada del Muerto" grant, commences on the left bank of the Rio Grande at the northern termination of the Doña Ana grant, and extends up the river seventy or eighty miles. This claim was disapproved by this office, and was referred by act of Congress to the Supreme Court of this Territory for adjudication, but has not yet been decided.

Two claims confirmed to the heirs of Pedro Armendaris, adjoin the Jornada del Muerto claim on the north, and extend up the river about forty miles, for part of the distance on both sides of the Rio Grande and include Fort Craig.

It will be seen that the major part of the grants made by Miranda bear date after the treaty with Mexico of December 30, 1853, and all of those made by Ortiz and Miranda were made after the treaty with Mexico of February 2, 1848, under which it has been claimed we acquired the whole of the territory covered by these claims.

In my annual report for 1863 I had the honor to call your attention to the condition of the titles to land in that part of the valley of the Rio Grande in this district South of the fourth correction line South. The above memoranda furnish additional arguments in favor of granting the relief therein suggested to the inhabitants of that section.

The passage of the bill submitted to Congress authorizing the Commissioner of the General Land Office to change the system of surveying the public lands in the Territories, and of the amendment to the preëmption and homestead laws suggested in my annual report of 1864, would enable the greater part of the claimants above mentioned to secure the titles to their lands. I trust these measures will be adopted by Congress at its next session, so that at an early day next season the surveys of the valley settlements may be commenced and prosecuted to completion.

I am, very respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General New Mexico & Arizona.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
September 4th 1865

Hon J M Edmunds
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington D.C.

Sir

I do not propose to make any contracts for surveys in this district until next spring, for the reasons heretofore given. Some surveys might be made in the vicinity of Fort Stanton, without very great risk to the lives of those who should engage in making them — although not by any means safe — but it is, in my opinion, for the interest of the settlers there, and of the Government, that they should not now be made, in view of the probability that Congress will at its next session, pass the bill authorizing the Commissioner of the General Land Office to change the system of surveying, so as to adapt it to the wants of the mountain territories. In all other parts of this district, where it is desirable that public surveys should be made, the Indians will prevent, for the present, operations in the field.

I would like to embrace the opportunity afforded by this suspension of field operations, to visit the States, and respectfully request from your office leave of absence to enable me to do so.

I am respectfully your
obt. servt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
September 9th 1865

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Sir

I have the honor to enclose herewith my official bond duly executed, and approved by Hon. Joel Houghton one of the United States Judges for the Territory of New Mexico; also two affidavits of sureties as to their responsibility

I am very respectfully your obt. Servt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
September 14. 1865

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commr of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt, by the mail yesterday, of your letter of 14th ultimo.

I notice in your acknowledgement of the receipt of my letter of 7th June last, transmitting a copy of the application of John S. Watts, attorney for the heirs of Luis Maria Baca to relocate one fifth of the private claim confirmed to said heirs under act of Congress approved June 11. 1864, you remark that "no survey thereof can be authorized until "evidence is obtained by you [me] to the fact that the land "thus located is not mineral, nor occupied under the laws "governing the disposition of the public lands"

On the 17th of June 1863, Judge Watts as Atty. for the heirs of Baca located one fifth of the claim confirmed to them, at the Salero Mountain in Arizona. A certified copy of the application to locate, with my approval, was transmitted to your office with my letter of 18th June 1863 In reply to your letter of July 18: 1863 — requiring a statement from myself and the Register and Receiver of the land office, that the land located was vacant and not mineral — I stated in substance, (in my letter of April 2: 1864) that, there was no evidence in this office that the land in question was occupied or mineral or otherwise, and that I had no personal knowledge concerning it. Upon receipt of that statement, and without any proof concerning the occupancy or character of the land (as I understood at the time) Mr. Barlow then Surveyor General of Arizona, was instructed to cause the location to be surveyed — upon receipt by him of the estimated cost of the survey —

It having been decided by your office that no patents are to be issued in these cases, and you having ordered

the survey of location No 3 as above, I supposed that the rule requiring proof of the character of the land, and as to whether it is occupied or not, had been rescinded, and therefore have not required of the parties any proof whatever

On the 21st day of July 1865, Hon John S. Watts as attorney for the heirs of Baca filed in this office a paper — of which the enclosed is a true copy — stating verbally at the time that the same was intended to have been attached to the application filed on 7th June 1865, (transmitted with my letter to you of that date) but was not received by him in time, and that it related to the tract of land described in said application I did not transmit to your office a copy of this paper for the reason above stated

If the enclosed is not deemed sufficient, I will, upon being advised, require of the parties additional proof

I am respectfully your obt servt
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
September 30, 1866.

Sir.—

I have the honor herewith to forward the approved account of David J. Miller for his services as translator, of John R. Lamy for rent of the office, and of my own advances of cash to meet the necessary current expenses of the Office, during the quarter ending today.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General New Mexico.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
September 30 1865

Hon J. M Edmunds
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Sir

Please transmit to Messrs Robert Campbell & Co St Louis, Missouri, a draft on the assistant Treasurer

Sir Genl, in payment of my salary for the quarter ending this day

Very respectfully your obedt
John A Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
October 5th 1865

Hon. J. M. Edmunds
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington City D.C.

Sir

In my letter to you of May 24th 1865 I referred to the proceedings had by the citizens of Prescott, Arizona, in relation to their town site; and proposed when I should receive a copy of their town plat (which was promised to be sent me, but was not received until 29th ult.) to forward to your office a copy of the same with a copy of the record of their proceedings. Herewith please find the plat of Prescott, the field notes of the survey of the boundaries of the town, and a copy of the record referred to, furnished by Hon. H. Brooks, one of the Commissioners, copies of all which I have retained.

It will be observed upon examination of the record, that the Commissioners - who acted upon the appointment by the people of the neighborhood - have hardly, in any particular, fulfilled the requirements of the act of Congress approved March 3d 1863. I have therefore advised them to commence de novo, and proceed in strict conformity to the provisions of the act approved July 1. 1864, entitled "an act for the disposal of coal lands and town property in the Public Domain", and of the act supplemental thereto approved March 3d 1865. I have also suggested to the Commissioners that they cause proper monuments to be built at each of the corners of the tract selected for the town, taking and marking bearing trees if any within a reasonable distance -, and that they also have certified the measurements of each side of the fractional lots in Blocks 1. 25. 31 & 37

The sum of $6,706.33 has been received by the Commissioners on the sale of lots, and there remains the sum of $13,412.67 to be paid by the purchasers upon receiving a "perfect title" to their lots.

The purchasers of lots in

Prescott are of course anxious that their titles shall be perfected at as early a day as practicable. If they shall prove as above the owners of improvements will be enabled to secure by preëmption the lots upon which their improvements are situated; the other purchasers can secure their titles at the public sale, or at private entry afterwards, and the Government will secure its just dues, now withheld.

I am very respectfully your obt. svt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
October 5. 1865.

Mr William A. Smith
Newburyport Mass.

Sir

I received on the 28th your letter of 4th ultimo, making application for an appointment as Deputy Surveyor in this District.

Should the condition of the country permit there will be considerable surveying done in this District during the next year — principally of meridian, base, standard and township lines. The compensation fixed by the Department to be paid to Deputy Surveyors for the several classes of work is as follows viz:

For meridian, base, & standard lines $10.00 per linear mile
" township lines 8.00 " " "
" subdivision meanders 7.00 " " "

The Deputy enters into a written contract with the Government to complete the work assigned him within a specified time, and gives bond with security, for the faithful execution of the surveys in accordance with instructions. He furnishes everything, and his account, certified by the Surveyor General, at above rates, is paid at the Treasury in Washington. The instrument used in making the surveys is Burt's solar compass.

The Indians are hostile and troublesome — so much so in Arizona that I have had no work done there during the current year. In New Mexico they are not now quite so bad, but operations in the field here, cannot not be unattended with danger. Labor is very high in New Mexico and higher still in Arizona and provisions

of all kinds are enormously dear in both Territories

I shall make no appointments of Deputies until it is certain that operations can be safely prosecuted in the field

I expect to visit my home in Illinois, & perhaps Washington, sometime during the fall or the next winter, at which Mr. Hawes will be informed and can advise you. If you shall desire it, after being fully advised of the nature of the service and the profits likely to result from a contract, it is quite probable that I can give you some employment, upon being satisfied that you are in all respects qualified

Very respectfully yours
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
October 24, 1865.

Hon. J. Francisco Chaves,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir:—

A bill passed the House of Representatives near the close of the first session of the last Congress authorizing the Commissioner of the General Land Office to change the system of surveying the public lands in the Territories of the United States. Said bill was introduced at my suggestion, and with the approval of the Commissioner of the General Land Office. As you are aware, the settlements upon the public lands in this Territory are almost universally made in plazas, and the lands cultivated by the settlers are divided into small tracts having a front of from 100 to 300 varas upon the stream and running back at right angles therewith to the hills. Under the present system of surveying, the smallest subdivision contains forty acres, equal to four hundred and eighty varas square, with lines running to the cardinal points

The preemption law now in force, as you are aware, secures to each settler upon the public lands, upon his compliance with its provisions, one hundred and sixty acres, to be located in legal subdivisions so as to include his dwelling, &c. When two or more persons are settled upon the same quarter section the oldest resident is entitled to the preference and excludes the others. The homestead law, as to limits, profession, &c., confers similar privileges upon actual settlers.

To illustrate the working of the present system of surveying the public lands in this district, I enclose herewith a rough diagram

of four sections of land subdivided into tracts of forty acres and of a supposed settlement in a valley running southeasterly across the same — the red lines being the boundary lines of the little farms of the settlers, and the black the lines of the public surveys, according to the present system [vide p. 525 this book]. Now, instead of running the lines of the surveys to the cardinal points as represented by the black lines, I would run them parallel and at right angles with the valleys, as shown by the red lines, dividing the valley into lots of not less than forty acres nor greater than eighty acres, to include the irrigable lands only. If the valley is wide enough to make two lots, I would make the stream the division line, giving each subdivision a frontage on the stream.

The system proposed conforms, as you will observe, very nearly to the old Spanish and Mexican custom of dividing lands between settlers or colonists, and is the only proper system of dividing the public lands in a country like this, where a supply of water for irrigation is the indispensable condition for their cultivation.

The bill above referred to, for the want of time or attention, failed to pass the Senate; but, if reintroduced and attended to properly, I doubt not it will receive the sanction of the present Congress. I think it of great importance to the people of this Territory; and, as a measure for their benefit, I commend it to your consideration.

I have also recommended a change in the homestead and pre-emption laws, applicable to New-Mexico and Arizona. The settlements made in this Territory upon the public lands being in plazas as above, that part of those laws requiring a residence upon the land sought to be entered cannot be complied with, and therefore our people are deprived of all privileges under them.

I framed a bill to amend these laws, and it was introduced in the House of Representatives at its last session, but died, I believe, with the committee to which it was referred. I enclose herewith a copy of the bill. Under this bill, if it should become a law, a large number of the people of the Mesilla Valley could secure the title to their lands, as also the settlers of the Tularosa, Bonito and Alamosa.

Judge Edmunds, Commissioner of the General Land office, is strongly in favor of the bill authorizing a change in the system of surveying, and I think also approves the amendments to the homestead and pre-emption laws proposed in the enclosed bill.

The above matters are discussed at some length in my annual report of 1864, and to some extent in my report for the current year, to both of which I beg to refer you.

It will give me pleasure at all times to communicate any information desired upon subjects connected with this office or over

which it has supervision or control, and to cooperate with you in everything tending to promote the welfare and prosperity of New Mexico.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark.

A Bill for

An act for the relief of inhabitants of Towns and Villages in the Territories of New Mexico and Arizona.

Section 1.— Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any person who is the head of a family, or who has arrived at the age of twenty-one years, and is a citizen of the United States, or who shall have filed his declaration of intention to become such as required by the naturalization laws of the United States, and who has never borne arms against the United States Government, residing in a town or village in either of the Territories of New Mexico or Arizona, and cultivating lands of the United States in the vicinity of such town or village, and being the bona fide owner of the improvements thereon, is hereby declared to be, with respect to such land, entitled to all the benefits of the several acts of Congress now in force granting the right of preëmption to settlers upon the public lands, and also of the act entitled "An act to secure homesteads to actual settlers on the public domain," approved May 20, 1862, notwithstanding that such person shall not reside nor have resided upon such land.

Sec. 2.— That upon any entry of land under the laws aforesaid by persons residing in towns as aforesaid — and not upon the lands sought to be entered — shall be permitted, proof shall be made before the Register of the proper land office, in addition to the proofs required under the laws aforesaid, of the cultivation by the party applying to make the entry of a portion of such tract of land, that the claimant is the bona fide owner of the improvements thereon and that he resides in a town or village in the vicinity.

Sec. 3.— The provisions of this act shall be considered as applying not only to those persons who shall be residents of towns or villages in said Territories of New Mexico and Arizona at the date of the passage of this act, but to those who may hereafter become so.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
October 26, 1865.

Sir:—

On the 24th instant I addressed a letter to Colonel Chavez, Delegate in Congress from this Territory, upon the subject of the survey

and disposition of the public lands in this district, a copy of which, with copy of accompanying paper, please find enclosed herein.

The changes proposed in the system of surveying the public lands in our mountain Territories, you will observe, are radical, but, in my opinion, proper and necessary to protect the government against useless expenditures in surveying lands which can never be sold or occupied, and beneficial to the people in enabling them to secure the title to those lands which can be cultivated, leaving all of the remainder for common use.

The amendments proposed to the preemption and homestead laws—applicable only to New Mexico and Arizona—are necessary to enable that portion of our people who are obliged to settle in towns that they may protect each other from the Indians, to participate in the benefits and privileges conferred on settlers in more favored regions by those laws.

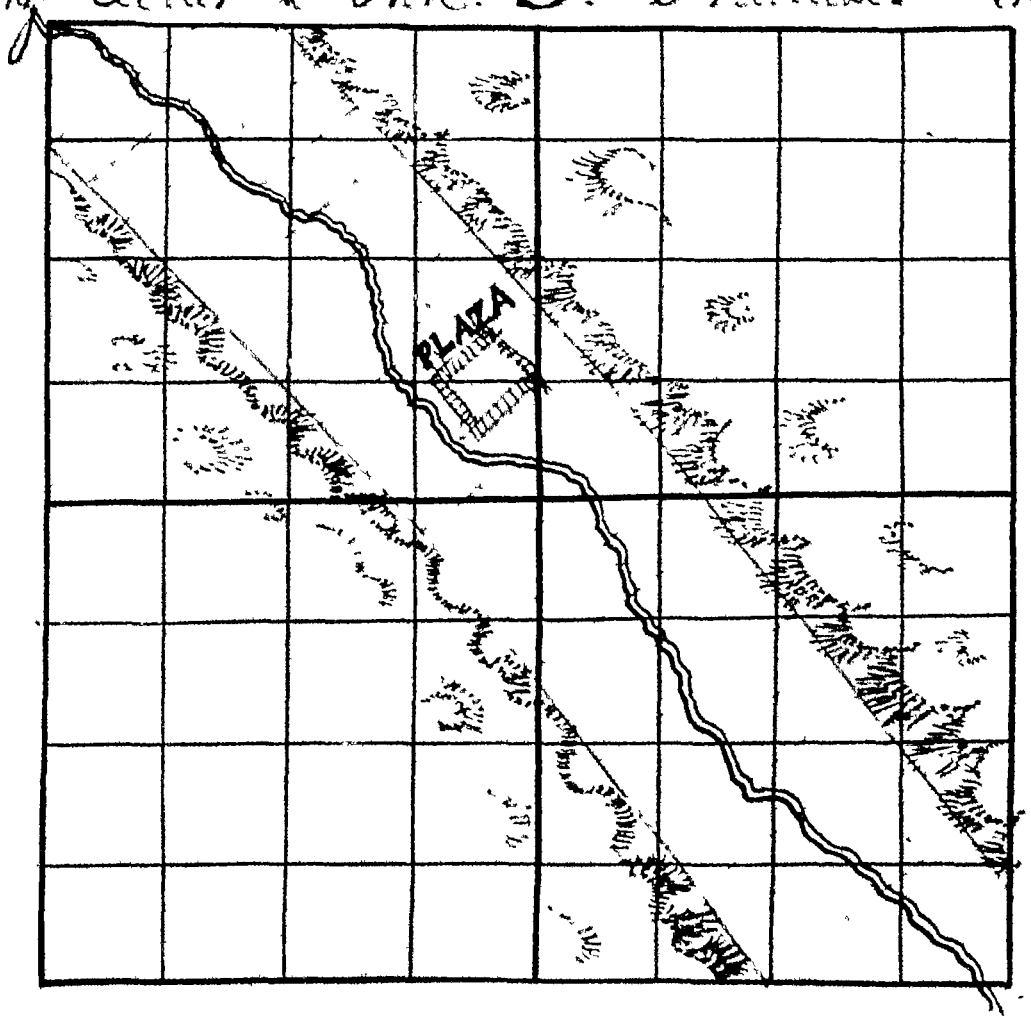
I have to request your consideration of the above matters, and, if my views meet with your approval, that you will give the measure your support.

Please command me in all things wherein I can aid you in promoting the interests and welfare of the Territory and people of Arizona.

I am, very respectfully, your obedt. servant,
John A. Clark.

Hon. John A. Gordon,
Washington City, D. C.

Copy of Diagram
accompanying Letter to Hon. J. Francisco Chavez of October 24, 1866.



Scale: 40 chains or 960 varas to the inch. Lots in red ink 10 chs. by 40 chs., or 240 varas front by 960 varas deep.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
November 12, 1865.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:— I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, on the 11th instant, of your letter of the 16th ultimo granting me leave of absence for sixty days. Availing myself of this license I expect to leave here tomorrow morning for Freeport, Illinois.

During my absence Mr. David J. Miller, Translator, will remain in charge of this Office.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
April 28, 1866.

Sir:—

I have the honor, in the absence of the Surveyor General, to acknowledge the receipt at this office, by yesterday's mail from the States, of the printed volume of your last Annual Report and accompanying documents and maps.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
David J. Miller,
Translator, in charge of the Office.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Washington, D. C.,
April 12, 1866.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington, D.C.

Sir.— The boundaries of the confirmed private claim called the grant of San Pedro, in New Mexico, are as follows, viz: "On the north to the outlet of the arroyo of Chimal, on the south to the outlet of the arroyo of San Antonio, on the east the little mountain on a line with the Puerto, and on the West the one belonging to and styled Sandia." (See re-

port No. 321, H. R., 1st Session, 38th Congress, page 222.) There is added to this grant, "one league containing 5000 varas" on the south. (See same report, page 226.)

The owners will soon apply to have this grant, with the addition, as above, surveyed. To avoid controversy in fixing the boundaries, I have to request that you will instruct me upon the following points, viz:

1.— The eastern and western calls of the grant being mountains, is the summit or the base of the mountain to be taken as the boundary?

2.— What is the extent of the additional grant of one league on the south?

3.— What consideration is to be given to the statement in the petition (see page 226, above report) that "Las Lagunitas de los Indios" and the "Ceja de los Facunditos" will be the southern boundary?

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General New Mexico & Arizona.

June 11, 1866.

Hon. John S. Watts,
Washington, D.C.

Sir.— I am in receipt of your letter of this date requesting the survey of the third series of grants to the heirs of Luis Maria Baca, located in the Territory of Arizona, and proposing to deposit the estimated cost of survey and office work as I may direct. I estimate the cost of survey of the above location and of the office work as follows, to wit:—

Fifty miles of exterior boundary at $15 per mile.... $750
Office work..... 150 = $900.

You will please deposite the above amount with the Treasurer of the United States in Washington to the credit of such appropriation as may be designated by the Commissioner of the General Land Office. Upon receipt of advice from the Commissioner of the General Land Office or from the Treasurer of the United States that said sum is deposited as above, I will immediately enter into contract with a competent deputy surveyor for the survey of the grant as requested.

Very truly and respectfully yours,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General for the district of New Mexico.

Freeport, Illinois, June 11, 1866.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land office,
Washington, D.C.

Sir.— I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt today of your letter of May 21, 1866, inclosing instructions for the Survey of the third of the series of the Luis Maria Baca grants, confirmed by the sixth section of an act of Congress approved June 21, 1860, and directing me to cause the survey to be executed in accordance with the amended description of the beginning point described in the application of the Hon. John S. Watts of 30th April last, which is also inclosed.

Hon. John S. Watts, attorney for the heirs of Luis Maria Baca, has applied to me to cause the third location to be surveyed, and proposes to deposit the estimated cost of survey and office work, as required by law. I have estimated the cost of the work as follows, viz:

Fifty miles of exterior boundary at $15 per mile.....$750
Office work.....150=$900,

and have directed him to deposit said sum with the Treasurer of the United States in Washington, to the credit of the appropriation which may be designated by you.

Upon receipt of advice from your office that said sum of money has been deposited for the purposes aforesaid, I will enter into contract with a deputy surveyor for the survey of said grant in accordance with your instructions of 9th April, 1864, and 21st May, 1866.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General for the District of New Mexico.

Kansas City, Missouri, June 22, 1866.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land office,
Washington, D.C.

Sir.— I have to request that you will cause to be forwarded to James Mitchell, Freeport, Illinois, a draft on the assistant Treasurer, New York, for my salary for the quarter ending 30th instant.

I reached here this morning en route for Santa Fé, where I hope to arrive on 2nd proximo.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General New Mexico.

Surveyor-General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
July 7, 1866.

Hon. H. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington, D.C.

Sir.- I have to acknowledge the receipt on my arrival here, on the 4th instant, of your letter of 2nd June, 1866, requesting my annual estimates for the surveying service in this district for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1868. Inclosed herewith I have the honor to submit the estimates as requested. [Vide next page.]

There having been no work done in the field in this district since my estimates for the same service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1867, were submitted, and as those estimates were not included in the appropriations recommended by you at the commencement of the present Congress, I have, as will be seen, asked for the appropriation of the same sums estimated for the service for the current year; and beg to refer to my letter of June 8, 1865, for the bases upon which my estimates are made.

Very respectfully your obt. servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
July 7, 1866.

Sir:-

Accompanying I have the honor to transmit for settlement the approved salary accounts of the Translator, and those for rent and incidental expenses incurred in this Office during the fiscal quarters ending December 31, 1865, and March 31 and June 30, 1866.

I am, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Hon. H. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D. C.

Estimate

Of Appropriations required for the Office of the Surveyor General of New Mexico for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1868.

On Salary Account.

Compensation of	Amount		Remarks
Surveyor General...	$3000	00	Compensation fixed by organic act of July 22, 1854.
Translator.....	2000	00	To perform also the duties of Chief Clerk
Draughtsman.....	1750	00	To be also Computer of Surveys.
	$6750	00	

On Surveying and Incidental Expense Account.

Object of the Appropriation.	Amount	
For Public Surveys – Continuing Survey of Base, Meridian, Township and Subdivision Lines in New Mexico.....	$7500	00
For Public Surveys – Survey of Base, Meridian, Township and Subdivision Lines in Arizona.....	1000	00
For Fuel, Office Rent, Stationery and Incidental Expenses.....	1000	00
For Messenger and Watchman.....	200	00
	$18750	00

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
July 6, 1866.

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
July 12, 1866.

Hon. R. C. McCormick,
Prescott, Arizona.

Dear Sir.— I received yesterday by the mail from the north, your favor of May 20, making inquiry as to proposed Surveys in Arizona, to which I hasten to reply.

Inclosed herewith please find map of Arizona and New Mexico, upon which I have marked in red ink the meridian, base and standard lines which I propose to have Surveyed, and from which to extend the public surveys over such portions of the Territory as the interests of the people and Government might require.

The Commissioner of the General Land office having failed to recommend the appropriation this year which I had estimated in my letter of June 8, 1865, (a copy of that portion of which is herewith enclosed), I shall not complete all the standard lines which I had proposed, but retain a portion of the money heretofore appropriated, for the purpose of extending the public surveys over the agricultural lands within and adjacent to the settlements. The system must be inaugurated by the survey of a portion of the meridian, base and standard lines proposed, before I can authorize any other surveys

There is no impediment in the way of immediate operations in the field but the hostility of the Indians, and the consequent danger which a surveying party, without military protection, would be subject to. I had hoped that the condition of Arizona, or at least that portion of it lying west of the San Francisco river, would have been such that I could have sent surveying parties into the field early this season: but my advices have been such that I have considered it too hazardous to do so. If I have been misinformed, or if matters have so mended that surveyors will be safe in making the surveys indicated, I shall be glad to commence operations at once, and much may yet be accomplished this season. I have therefore to request that you will advise me fully as to the present disposition of the Indians and the prospect (if any) of peace with them. You will also oblige me by giving me the location of new settlements upon the public lands (not mineral) which the interests of the settlers and the Government require should be surveyed.

There is but one copy of my last annual report in the Office. If I had supposed that Gov. Goodwin had not sent you a copy from Washington I should have done so while there. You will find it published with the report of the Commissioner of the General Land office, which you can obtain (if you have not already received it) by application to the Commissioner.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General New Mexico and Arizona

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
July 7. 1866.

Wm. J. M. Edmunds
Commr. of the General Land Office
Washington D.C.

Sir

I notice that your estimates for the fiscal year ending June 30. 1867, for surveying the public lands in this District, are based upon the following prices per lineal mile viz:

In New Mexico, not exceeding $13. for Standard lines
$11. for Township lines
$9. for Subdivision lines
In Arizona, not exceeding $15. for Standard lines.
$12. for Township lines
$10. for Subdivision lines

In my letter of June 6. 1865, I had the honor to recommend that the price per mile for surveying in this District should be advanced to $13. per mile for Standard - $11. for Township and $9. for subdivision lines, but upon consideration think there should be discrimination in favor of Arizona — the price of labor and of provisions being greater there than in New Mexico — and I therefore request that your instructions to this Office of May 24. 1862 may be so modified, as that I may be authorized to contract for surveys in this District at the prices fixed in your estimates as above

Very respectfully your Obt. Svt
John A. Clark
Surveyor General of
Dist. of New Mexico

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
July 18, 1866.

Sir:—

I have the honor herewith to enclose my semiannual returns of United States property in this Office for the half years ending December 31, 1865, and June 30, 1866.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark
Surveyor General.

Hon. J. M. Edmunds,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
July 28, 1866.

His Excellency A. C. McCormick,
Governor of Arizona.

Governor.— I am directed by Surveyor General Clark to enclose to you the accompanying Circular of the Commissioner of the General Land office and map of Arizona, and to ask that you will, at your earliest convenience, collect and furnish the office with the information requested in the manner and to the extent contemplated by the Commissioner

The circular explains the important object of the information sought; and it is the desire of the Surveyor General, and doubtless equally the desire of yourself, that Arizona as well as New Mexico shall duly appear in the comprehensive view of the material resources and progress of our country which the Commissioner contemplates preparing and publishing.

It is desirable that the information be collected as soon and as fully as the nature of the case will allow, and forwarded so as to reach here if possible during September.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

Dav. J. Miller,
Ch. Clk. Sur General's Office.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
August 4, 1866.

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington, D.C.

Sir.— I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Commissioner's letter of 11th ultimo, enclosing circular letter of May 4, 1866. I have taken measures to collect the information requested, and will forward my report to reach your office as early as 10th September.

Very respectfully, your obedient Servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
August 9, 1866.

Col. A. R. Carey,
Santa Fé, N.M.

Sir.— I am in receipt of your letter of this date requesting that I will cause to be surveyed the two private claims confirmed to Serafin Ramirez, viz: The San Pedro, confirmed June 21, 1860, and the Cañon del Agua, confirmed June 12, 1866.

Under the act of Congress of June 2, 1862, parties desiring the survey by the United States of private claims are required to defray the entire cost of such survey, including the office work. I estimate the cost of the survey as follows:—

60 miles of boundary lines @ $15 per mile	$900.00
4 miles Connections with public surveys @ $9	36.00
Office work	200.00
Total	$1136.00

Upon the deposite with me of the above sum and your agreement to pay any further sum which may be required to defray the expense of such survey and office work as above, I will enter into contract for the survey of the two claims as requested.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
August 9, 1866.

William H. Griffin, Esq.,
Deputy Surveyor:

Sir:—I hand you herewith the printed "Manual of Instructions" relating to the public surveys, by which you will be guided in the execution of the surveys under your contract with this office of this date, so far as the same may be applicable and not modified by these special instructions.

The boundaries of the San Pedro grant are as follows, to wit:—On the north the outlet of the arroyo of Chimal, on the east the "little mountain of the Puerto," on the south the outlet of the arroyo of San Antonio, and on the west the Sandia mountain—to which is added one square league on the south.

The calls of the grant as above are said to be well defined landmarks and easily identified. The eastern base of the Sandia mountain forms a complete boundary on the west. The north and south boundaries will be east and west lines run through the points named, and the east boundary will be a north and south line run along the western base of the little mountain of the Puerto.

You will establish your initial point at or near the mouth of the arroyo of Chimal, at which point you will set a stone firmly in the ground not less than 24 X 12 X 3 inches, upon which you will mark the letters **S.P.Cl. Beg. Cor.** and take the bearing and distance to two witness trees, if any within a reasonable distance, which will be marked as hereinafter directed; from which corner you will run west to the northwest corner (at the base of the Sandia mountain), thence southerly along the base of said mountain to a point due west of the outlet of the arroyo San Antonio, thence east through or across the mouth or outlet of said arroyo to a point due south of the west base of the little mountain of the Puerto, thence north on a line with and along the west base of the said mountain to a point due east of the mouth of the arroyo of Chimal (the beginning corner); thence west to the place of beginning.

At the end of each mile, counting from the beginning corner, you will securely plant a stone not less than 20 X 10 X 3 inches, upon the west face of which on north and south lines, and upon the north face on east and west lines, you will cause to be durably cut a number corresponding with the number of miles it shall stand from the beginning corner. At the northeast and northwest corners of the survey you will also securely plant a stone not less than 24 X 12 X 3 inches, upon the west face of which you will cause to be durably marked respectively as follows: **N.W. Cor.** **N.E. Cor San Pedro Cl.** and also at each of the other angles or points whence the course of the boundaries shall be changed from a direct line, you will set a stone not less than 20 X 10 X 3 inches, marked upon the west face with a cross, thus: †. At each of said corners you will take two bearing or witness trees, if any within a reasonable distance, as required for corners, one within and the other without the claim, which you will cause to be marked facing the corner with the letters or marks corresponding to those upon the stone which they are intended to witness.

The leagues squares upon the south, which constitutes a part of the San Pedro grant, you will locate on and along the south boundary of that portion of the same first to be surveyed as above, at such point as may be found most in the direction of the Lagunitas de los Indios and the Ceja de los Facunditos. This league will be surveyed in a square form, with lines to the cardinal points—the north boundary being formed by a portion of the south boundary of the original grant as above.

The boundaries of the Cañon del Agua grant, confirmed to José Serafin Ramirez, as defined in the grantee's petition, are: "On the north the road leading from the Placer to the Palo Amarello, on the south the northern boundary of the grant of San Pedro, on the east the spring of the Cañon del Agua, on the west the summit of the mountain of the mine known as my own". The act of possession accompanying the grant filed in this office describes the same boundaries, except the last call, which is described as "the highest summit of the little mountain of the Puerto, joining the boundary of the mine known as inherited property." You will be exceedingly careful in identifying the several calls of these grants, and when there is any doubt in your mind as to the location of any one of them, you will, to satisfy yourself, call and examine under oath disinterested witnesses who have been long residents of the country, whose testimony you will reduce to writing and return to this office with your notes.

It is represented to me that the landmarks named in the Cañon del Agua grant do not correspond in direction or position with the courses given. If in the survey you find the courses given incompatible with the relative position of the landmarks, and that by taking the landmarks, without reference to the courses, you can make the survey, you will disregard the latter and be guided by the former. The entire road from the Placer del Puerto (the little town of that name) to the place called Palo Amarillo seems to have been intended as part of the boundary: the termini of the road will therefore be taken as two of the points in said survey, or points towards which two of the lines shall be directed.

The San Pedro grant forms one of the boundaries of the Cañon del Agua grant, and you are directed to establish the initial point of the survey of the latter in the established boundary of the former at the most westerly intersection of the two lines, measuring and noting the distance to the nearest mile corner on said line, and count the distance from such point and establish corners as directed above for the survey of the San Pedro.

At the initial point, at the point which you may establish as the highest summit of the mountain named, and at the termination of the line upon the boundary of the San Pedro grant, you will set cornerstones not less than 24 × 10 × 3 inches and cut upon each stone the letters **C. del A. Cl.** and at the end of each mile from the initial point and at each angle of the survey, except as above, you will set stones of the size and marked as required for similar corners in the survey of the San Pedro grant, and will in like manner take and mark bearing or witness trees.

You are aware that the Mexican league contains 5000 varas of 33 inches—equal to 2 miles 4.8 chains and 33⅓ links.

Should either of the lines of these grants intersect or cross any line or lines of the public surveys, you will note the distance to the nearest township, section or quarter-section corner on said line, and will establish a corner at each intersection as provided in the printed instructions.

To enable you to comply with this portion of these instructions, you are furnished herewith with the fieldnotes of the lines between ranges 7 and 8 east, townships 9, 10, 11 and 12 north, and the south boundary of township 13 north, range 7 east, and also south boundary of the survey of the Ortiz mine grant.

It is not certain that any of the lines of these surveys will intersect or cross any of the lines of the public surveys. If there shall be no such intersection you will proceed to the nearest township or section corner—which you will verify—and proceed to run a blank line from such corner to the nearest point on the survey, noting the course and distance and the distance the point of intersection may be from the nearest mile corner on such line.

Very respectfully,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
August 11, 1866.

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson,
Commissioner of the General Land office,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—On the 9th instant Asa R. Carey, for himself and as agent for the other owners, filed in this office an application for the survey of the private claim No. 14, known as the San Pedro grant, confirmed by act of congress approved June 21, 1860, and also for the survey of private claim No. 70, known as the Cañon del Agua grant, confirmed to Jose Serafin Ramirez by act of congress approved June 12, 1866. I estimated the cost of the survey of the two claims as follows:—

60 miles of boundary lines @ $15 per mile	$900.00
4 miles connections with public surveys @ $9	36.00
Office work	200.00
Total	$1136.00

which sum was on the same day deposited with me by the claimants. In compliance with the above request I have entered into a contract with William W. Griffin for the survey of the two claims mentioned, a duplicate of which I herewith enclose for your approval.

I have this day deposited, to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States, in the designated Depository of the United States at Santa Fé, New Mexico, on account of the appropriation for compensation of Surveyor General of New Mexico and the clerks in his office, two hundred dollars—the estimated cost of the office work as above—a certificate for which I also enclose herewith.

The balance, viz: nine hundred and thirty-six dollars, I have deposited with said Designated Depository to my credit as Surveyor General of New Mexico. I have made this disposition of the above sum, because there is no appropriation for the survey of private claims, and therefore no proper appropriation to credit it to. If deposited to the credit

of the United States Treasurer on account of the appropriation for the survey of the public lands, I cannot understand how it could be applied to the payment of the deputy for surveying these private claims. The law requiring the owners or claimants to pay for these surveys provides that the expenses, &c., "shall be paid or secured to the satisfaction of the Secretary of the Interior before the work shall be performed," not intending, as it seems to me, that the money should be paid into the treasury at all, but paid directly by the Surveyor General to the deputy when his work is approved. If I am not right in this, please advise me, and I will conform to your instructions.

As will be seen I have allowed $15 per lineal mile for this survey. This is the price allowed before the date of the letter from your office of May 24, 1862, reducing the compensation to be thereafter paid for public surveys. As the compensation for surveys of private claims was not fixed by your office, I have felt at liberty to contract at the price paid for like service before the receipt of above letter.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
August 14, 1866.

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington, D.C.

Sir.— I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt today of your letter of instructions of 28th ultimo enclosing "Diagram A," illustrating the proposed change in numbering fractional lots of the public lands.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
August 15, 1866.

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington, D.C.

Sir.— I have the honor to submit the following report in answer to the circular letter from your office of May 11, 1866.

1st.— Upon the accompanying map I have designated by numbers in red ink, as nearly as possible from the data in this office, the cities, towns and villages in this surveying district, and in the table or list annexed to the map will be found opposite the numbers corresponding to those upon the map the names of the towns, with the present

estimated population of each. The map is on so small a scale that I cannot write upon it the names and give the population of the towns so that they can be read. As the towns with few exceptions are upon private or town grants, made by Spain or Mexico before the acquisition of the territory by the United States, but few of which have been surveyed, I can not locate them with any degree of accuracy, but believe their positions as given will be found substantially correct.

2nd.—I have also designated, in color, upon the accompanying map, with references, all the mining localities in this district known to me. I have no statistics of the production of the precious metals or of copper from any of the mines in this district: any estimate which I might make would therefore be wholly unreliable. Several quartz mills are in operation near Prescott, and it is reported that very favorable results have been obtained in the reduction of the goldbearing quartz from the numerous lodes in that vicinity. In New Mexico the only mill in operation is the one at the Ortiz mine at the town of Real de Dolores, near Santa Fé. This has only been in operation a short time, and the machinery is yet so imperfect that the true value of the mine cannot be estimated by the results. Other mills, it is expected, will be put in operation, during the current year, at Pinos Altos and at the "New Placer" (Real del Puerto), south of Santa Fé. Discoveries of new mines are being made almost daily, but little progress has been made in their development, and their value is unknown. During the year past a new interest has been awakened in New Mexico upon this subject, and "prospecting" parties have penetrated into regions hitherto unexplored, discovering, as they report, rich veins of silver and copper ore and of goldbearing quartz, many specimens of which have been shown me, all apparently rich in the precious metals or in copper. For further information concerning the mines of this district I beg to refer you to my annual report for 1865.

3rd.—As none of the timber lands in Arizona and but small portions of those in New Mexico have been surveyed, any estimate of the number of acres which I can make will of course be approximate only, and may be very wide of the mark. From the most reliable data within my reach I estimate that in New Mexico there are five millions of acres, and in Arizona four millions: this includes all lands not entirely destitute of trees. In New Mexico the timber region commences twenty to thirty miles west of the Rio Grande, near latitude 32° 30', and extends to the north boundary of the Territory. In places, viz: at and above latitude 35° 30', it approaches nearer to the river, but, within the above limits, there are extensive prairies or plains (some of which are exhibited upon the map), covering probably three-fourths of the entire area. East of the Rio Grande the timber is confined chiefly to the range of mountains commencing at the north boundary of the Territory and terminating a few miles southeast of Santa Fé, the Sandia mountains southwest of Santa Fé, and the Sierra Blanca and Sacramento mountains in the vicinity of Fort Stanton, in the southeastern portion of the Territory. In Arizona a considerable portion of the territory bounded on the east by the line dividing that Territory from New Mexico, by the Gila river on the south, on the north the summit of the ridge dividing the waters of the Gila from those flowing into the Colorado Chiquito, and on the west about the line of 112° 30' west longitude, is well timbered; but, within

these boundaries, as in New Mexico, there are extensive prairies or tablelands entirely destitute of trees. A portion of the Chiricahui mountains near the southeast corner of the Territory is well timbered. It is reported that there are extensive forests on and near the Colorado river above the Great Bend and on the mountains in the northeastern portion of the Territory; but I have no authentic information concerning that portion of the Territory. For further information upon this subject I refer you to my last annual report.

4th.—The construction of railways in this district has not yet commenced, although they are projected, and we are looking with anxious hopes to the day when the Pacific Railway Company shall complete its road to a point near our border, when it is expected that that company, or some other, will construct a branch in this direction.

5th.—It is estimated that, including the wagons used for Government transportation, there were used in freighting from the States to New Mexico, during the past year, three thousand wagons; that the average lading of each was five thousand pounds, equal in the aggregate to 15,000,000 pounds of freight; that the value of goods imported from the States amounted to three millions of dollars, of which two hundred thousand dollars in value was exported to Mexico; that there was imported from Mexico goods, dried fruit, &c., to the value of seventy five thousand dollars; and that seven hundred and fifty thousand pounds of wool, valued at one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, was exported to the States. It is impossible to arrive at any just estimate of the value of other items of domestic trade.

6th.—I estimate the arable lands of New Mexico at one million of acres, and of Arizona at about the same. For more specific information concerning them I respectfully refer you to my annual report of 1865.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General

MEMORANDUM

Of the Names and estimated Populations of the various Cities, Towns and Villages in New Mexico and Arizona, to accompany the Map showing the Localities of the same.

No. on Map	Name.	Population	No. on Map	Name	Population
1	Rio Colorado	720	69	Fort Selden	
2	Arroyo Hondo	1000	70	Fort Cummings	
3	Arroyo Seco	1200	71	Doña Ana	675
4	Taos (Indian pueblo)	375	72	Picacho	250
5	Fernandez de Taos	2000	73	Las Cruces	1300
6	Los Ranchos	500	74	Mesilla	1500
7	Picuris	150	75	La Mesa	650
8	Picuris (Indian pueblo)	150	76	Los Amoles	100
9	Embudo	500	77	Santo Tomas	125

10	Chamisal	325
11	Las Trampas	250
12	La Joya	300
13	Los Luceros	300
14	Abiquiú	500
15	Rito	1500
16	Ojo Caliente	100
17	Cochiti	75
18	Chama	600
19	Chamita	300
20	San Juan (Indian pueblo)	350
21	Cañada	1000
22	Santa Clara (Indian pueblo)	40
23	Pojoaque	450
24	Pojoaque (Indian pueblo)	35
25	Queona	200
26	Nambé (Indian pueblo)	100
27	San Ildefonso	175
28	Tesuque	300
29	Tesuque (Indian pueblo)	100
30	Santa Fé	4600
31	Agua Fria	325
32	Ciénega	360
33	Rajado	50
34	Cochiti (Indian pueblo)	400
35	Peña Blanca	600
36	Jemez (Indian pueblo)	800
37	San Isidro	50
38	Zia (Indian pueblo)	120
39	Santa Ana (Indian pueblo)	525
40	Santo Domingo (Indian pueblo)	1000
41	San Felipe (Indian pueblo)	350
42	Algodones	375
43	Bernalillo	650
44	Sandia (Indian pueblo)	220
45	Alameda	685
46	Alburquerque	1500
47	Atrisco	500
48	Pajarito	300
49	Isleta (Indian pueblo)	550
50	Peralta	500
51	Los Lunas	500
78	Tularosa	400
79	Fort Stanton	
80	Pinos Altos	100
81	Fort West	
82	Rito	100
83	Laguna (Indian pueblo)	900
84	Acoma (Indian pueblo)	500
85	Cevolleta	600
86	Cuvero	525
87	Fort Wingate	
88	Moquino	100
89	Zuñi (Indian pueblo)	1500
90	Chililí	350
91	Tajique	250
92	Manzano	300
93	Torreon	300
94	Tijeras	50
95	San Antonio	100
96	San Lorenzo	100
97	Chimal	35
98	San Antoñito	50
99	Real de Dolores	150
100	Real del Puerto	100
101	Galisteo	400
102	Fort Union	
103	Capellá	500
104	Rayado	500
105	Mora	2000
106	Las Vegas	2000
107	Los Valles	300
108	La Liendro	250
109	Las Torres	100
110	Chaperito	450
111	Fort Bascom	
112	Pecoloto	675
113	Bernal	120
114	Pecos	375
115	San Jose	500
116	San Miguel	500
117	Pueblo	425
118	La Cuesta	730
119	Anton Chico	650

53	Los Lentes	240	120	Agua Negra	500
54	Valencia	300	121	Fort Sumner	
54	Tomé	325	122	Prescott	400
55	Los Chalmes	325	123	Callville	100
56	Belen	700	124	Hardyville	200
57	Casa Colorada	320	125	Fort Mojave	
58	La Joya	260	126	La Paz	750
59	Polvadera	525	127	Weaver	200
60	Limitar	825	128	Wickenburg	400
61	Sabinal	575	129	Fort Goodwin	
62	Socorro	650	130	Arizona City	125
63	San Antonio	110	131	Pima Villages (Indian pueblos)	3500
64	San Pedro	100	132	Tucalon (military post)	
65	Parraje	300	133	Tucson	1000
66	Fort Craig		134	San Xavier (Indian pueblo)	175
67	Fort McRae		135	Tubac	200
68	Alamosa	150	136	Calabazas	50

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
August 15, 1866.

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
August 21st 1866

Sir

I have the honor to inclose herewith my annual report in duplicate, with accompanying documents A & B also in duplicate

Very respectfully your obt. Servt
John A Clark
Surveyor General

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson
Commr. of the General Land Office
Washington D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
August 28, 1866.

Messrs. Ashurst & Clever,
Mora, New Mexico.

Gentlemen:— Enclosed herewith please find certified copies of all the original papers on file in this office relating to the grant to John Scolly and others. Your letter of 22nd instant from Las Vegas requesting copies of these papers was not received till yesterday.

Very truly yours,
John A. Clark.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
September 15. 1866.

Saml R. L. McCormick
Prescott Arizona

Sir

I received yesterday your letter of 10th July last making inquiry regarding the provisions and operation of the Preemption laws

No preemption right can be perfected until after the survey of the land under authority of the United States, and the return of the plats to the local Land Office The law requires the settler within three months after the plat of the survey is filed in the Land Office to file with the Register thereof, a notice of his claim, and within twelve months after filing the plat as above, he must present his proofs of settlement and occupation, and pay for the land, otherwise he loses the benefit of the preemption law.

Nothing therefore can be done in the direction of securing your titles from Government until the lands are surveyed, except to remain in actual possession.

The notice mentioned above is a declaration in writing under oath, that the party has settled upon a tract of public land, not mineral — describing the same by meandrys and legal subdivisions — and that he intends to claim the same under the

provisions of the pre emption laws - referring to the act by this title, and date of approval.

Until there shall be a Land Office established in Arizona, the notices required of pre emptors in that part of this district will be received and filed in this Office

I have been looking with interest for a reply to my letter to you of 12th July - which I trust you received - but have not yet the pleasure of acknowledging its receipt. Hoping to hear from you at an early day

I am respectfully & truly yours
John A. Clark
Surv. Genl

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fe New Mexico
September 14. 1866

Mr. W. E. Collier
Prescott, Arizona
Sir

I received this evening your letter dated July 14, making inquiry concerning the pre emption laws, filing notices of pre emption claims &c

There have been no declaratory statements or pre emption notices filed in this Office relating to lands in Arizona, nor would any such notice avail the party anything, until the lands have been surveyed under authority of the Government.

If when the lands are surveyed, no Land Office shall have been established in Arizona, notices of pre emption may then be filed in this Office this must be done within three months from the date of the approval of the surveys by the Surveyor General, but if at the time of the survey there shall be a Land Office in Arizona, then the notice must be filed with the Register of the Land Office within three months from the date of the receipt at the Land Office of the township plats.

I cannot delegate the power vested in me for the time being by law, and therefore cannot establish an agency at Prescott.

I should like much to visit Prescott again

this season, but do not think it probable that I shall be able to do so

Very respectfully yours
John A. Clark, Sur. Genl.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
September 5, 1876.

W. W. Griffin, Esq.,
Deputy Surveyor.

Sir:— In the fieldnotes returned to this office of the survey of the Cañon del Agua grant you do not show that the line run by you in the direction of the Spring of the Cañon del Agua from the corner established on the summit of the Sierrita del Puerto, if prolonged, would intersect the Spring, and it is impossible for this office to determine from the notes whether said line has the proper direction to constitute it a part of the boundary of the Cañon del Agua grant. It will therefore be necessary for you to return to the field and extend the line in question to its intersection or to a point at right angles with said Spring; and if it shall be found that it falls north or south of this call of the grant, the location of which has been fixed and determined by the sworn testimony of witnesses taken on the ground before you in May last, you will treat the line run and established by you as above as a random line, and run a true line from the Spring to the said corner established by you upon the summit of the mountain. (From the Spring to its intersection with the boundary of the San Pedro grant will of course be a blank line) The corners reported by you as established on the line—in the above contingency treated as a random line—you will destroy, and establish upon the true line mile corners corresponding in distance from the corner on the summit of the mountain with those to be destroyed. The closing corner on the boundary of the San Pedro grant you will also destroy, and establish a corner in the proper position on said line.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
September 29, 1864.

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington, D.C.

Sir.— I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt yesterday of your letter of instruction of 11th instant.

In stating the means at the disposal of this office for the extension of the public surveys in New Mexico there is no mention of the appropriation of ten thousand dollars made by act approved July 2, 1864, nor of the appropriation of five thousand dollars by act of March 1, 1862. Are not these two appropriations together with the unexpended balance of the appropriation of March 2, 1861, now applicable to this service?

The Indians are so far subdued that I deem it now comparatively safe for surveying parties to take the field in New Mexico, and all the funds appropriated can be advantageously expended.

Awaiting your further instructions before exceeding in my contracts the sums stated in your letter, I am

Respectfully your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
September 30, 1864.

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir.— Herewith I forward for the action of the approved accounts originating in this office during the quarter ending this day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
John A. Clark
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
October 1, 1861.

Hon. Joseph G. Wilson,
Commissioner of the General Land Office.

Sir.— Please forward a draft on the Assistant Treasurer, New York, for my salary for the quarter ending 30th ultimo to Myers, Stolert & Co., Saint Louis, Missouri.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
October 9, 1861.

Hon. Joseph G. Wilson,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Sir.— I have this day entered into contract with Hiram C. Fellows, U. S. Deputy Surveyor, for the extension east to the Pecos river of the Second Correction Line South and for the Survey of three hundred and thirty miles of exterior Township Lines, and herewith enclose triplicate of the same for your approval.

I am respectfully your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
October 9, 1861.

Hiram C. Fellows, Esq.,
Deputy Surveyor.

Sir.— I hand you herewith a copy of the "Manual of Instructions to regulate the Field Operations of Deputy Surveyors," by which you will be strictly governed in the execution of the Surveys under your contract with this office of this date.

Your first work will be the extension east of the Second Standard Parallel or Correction Line South. Commencing at the corner established on said line between Sections 2 & 35, Townships 10 & 11 South, Range 3 East of the Principal Meridian, twenty-five chains east of the corner to Sections 34 & 35, Township 10 South, Range 3 East, you will run and establish said line east to the first township corner east of the Pecos river, which stream — according to the most reliable data in this Office —

you will intersect in Range 24 or 25 East.

You are requested to carefully note the position of the Rio Hondo with reference to this line throughout its course to the Pecos, and report fully, that this office may have the necessary information to direct future surveys.

From the first township corner on said Standard Line east of the base of the Sierra Blanca you will run and establish the Range Line south, to the corner of Townships 15 and 16 South. This line will serve as a Guide Meridian, but will not affect the numbering of the Ranges east of the Principal Meridian. From the last mentioned corner you will extend the Third Standard Parallel west (if necessary) to include in the Surveys north of it the settlements of the Tularosa, and east twenty-four miles.

The exterior lines of townships to be surveyed by you are intended to include the cultivable lands watered by the Tularosa, Ruidoso and Bonito rivers and by the upper Hondo; and it is supposed that three ranges of townships east of the line above directed to be run to serve as a guide meridian will include the greater part of such lands and the settlement upon those streams. You will therefore from the Second and Third Standard Lines to be surveyed by you as above extend your surveys north to include the streams above mentioned, to the extent of your contract.

Where it is practicable you are directed to use stone for the perpetuation of the corners on all lines to be surveyed by you.

You will give a general description of each township the exterior of which you shall run, so far as the same may come under your observation, noting particularly the amount of timber and irrigable land; and you will also return with your fieldnotes a connected plat of the whole, showing the general topography, and particularly the timber, prairie, source of the streams, location of springs, settlements, &c.

I have to request that you will also transmit to this office from time to time the results of your observations regarding the capabilities for settlement, the mines, &c., of the district over which your surveys will extend, and beyond, so far as you may have reliable information.

You are at liberty to return the fieldnotes of the Standard Lines when completed, which, if approved, will be entitled, with your account for the work, to the General Land Office in advance of the completion of your contract.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,

Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
October 10, 1866.

Brigadier General James H. Carleton,
Commanding District of New Mexico,
Santa Fé, New Mexico.

General — I have entered into contract with Mr. Hiram C. Fellows, U.S. Deputy Surveyor, to survey the Second Standard Parallel South from its present termination, about thirty-five miles southeasterly from Fort Craig, east to the Pecos river, and to run and establish the exterior lines of townships, to include the settlements on the Tularosa, Bonito, Ruidoso and Nonoso rivers, in the vicinity of Fort Stanton.

The hostile Apaches infest some portions of the country included within his field of operations, rendering it unsafe for him to proceed to his work without military protection. I have therefore to request that you will direct the commanding officers at Forts Craig and Stanton to furnish Mr Fellows such military escort as may be deemed sufficient to protect him and his party in the prosecution of his work.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
October 11, 1866

Hon. A. W. Taylor,
First Comptroller of the Treasury,
Washington, D.C.

Sir. — I have the honor to enclose herewith, for your information, a contract with Hiram C. Fellows, U. S. Deputy Surveyor, for the survey of certain of the public lands in New Mexico.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
October 15, 1866.

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:— There is no evidence in this office that the line between the State of Texas and the Territory of New Mexico has been surveyed and marked upon the ground. I have seen the monument on the left bank of the Rio Grande marking the line at that point, and am informed that the boundary has been established through its whole extent. I have therefore to request that this office be furnished with the fieldnotes, in order that, in extending the public surveys along the Canadian on the east and the Rio Grande on the south, proper connections may be made with said boundary.

Very respectfully, your obt. Servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico.
October 16, 1866.

Sir.—

I have the honor to enclose herewith, for settlement, the account of Robert B. Willison for services in this office as Draughtsman in making plats of the recently surveyed private land claims confirmed to Jose Serafin Ramirez and known as the San Pedro and the Cañon del Agua Grants.

Respectfully your obedient servant,
John A. Clark, Surveyor General

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
October 22, 1866.

Hon. A. Francisco Chaves,
Washington, D.C.

Sir.—

Upon further examination of the private claim of Gervacio Nolan known as the Santa Clara, I find that it was approved by this office July 10, 1860, and transmitted by the Surveyor General to the General Land Office with his annual report of September 15, 1860, in

which it is designated as Claim of "Gervacio Nolan, No. 9" its proper number and by which it should be designated in the act of confirmation is No. 39.

Respectfully your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
October 23, 1866.

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:— I have the honor to transmit by mail today ~~in trip of Kaye~~ a copy of the field notes of the survey of private claim No 70, known as Cañon del Agua grant, confirmed June 12, 1866, and of private claim No. 14, known as the San Pedro grant, confirmed June 21, 1860, with plats of the same, and a copy of the special instructions to Mr. Griffin, the deputy surveyor.

I also enclose a copy of the special instructions issued to H. C. Fellows, U.S. Deputy Surveyor, accompanying his contract dated October 9, 1866, transmitted for your approval with my letter of 9th instant.

The private claim confirmed as No. 70, as above, was so reported by the Surveyor General in his annual report of September 15, 1860; but at the suggestion of your office (See letter of October 24, 1860) the number was corrected in his letter of November 21, 1860, to No. 40, which is the proper number

The private claim of Gervacio Nolan No 39, is also erroneously designated in the same annual report as No. 9, the numbering of which is also corrected by the Surveyor General in his letter above referred to. If this error is perpetuated in the report of the Congressional Committee, it should be corrected before the final action of Congress, to prevent any further confusion in the premises

I have declined paying over to Mr. Griffin the amount due him for the above surveys until I shall receive notice of your approval of his contract of 9th August 1866, and of the position assumed in my letter to your Office of August 11th 1866— to which I beg to call your attention— regarding the disposition of the funds deposited by the owners to defray the expense of the survey

The amount due Mr. Griffin under his contract is $703.91— the expense of the Office work has not yet been ascertained

I am respectfully your "Obt Svt"
John A. Clark, Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
October 28, 1866

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:— At the request of Mr. David J. Miller, Translator in this office, I forward herewith, for settlement, his account for services as clerk in this office for the fractional quarter ending August 29, 1866, certified by Mr. Pelham, then Surveyor General. I also enclose a letter from Mr. Pelham and one from Mr. Wilbar explaining the account, and presenting the reasons why it was not certified and forwarded for settlement at the proper time.

The books of the Department will show that Mr. Miller was not paid for the time covered by this account. The statement of Mr. Pelham establishes the fact that he was during the whole period a clerk in the office and entitled to the salary as stated; and I can see no reason why the account should not be audited and paid.—

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
November 17, 1866.

Hon. R. C. McCormick,
Governor of Arizona,
Prescott, Arizona.

Dear Sir.— I received yesterday your two letters dated respectively 7th and 28th ultimo with inclosures, and also Gird's map of Arizona, for all of which, and for your favorable mention of my efforts to procure favorable legislation for your Territory, and approval of my plans for surveys, please accept my thanks.

In answer to your question, viz: "If a man takes up a ranch with a view to preëmption and parts with portions of it for a consideration prior to completing all the preëmption papers, will it interfere with his right to perfect them?" I refer you to the 12th and 13th sections of the act of Congress entitled "an act to appropriate the proceeds of the sales of the public lands and to grant preëmption rights," approved September 4, 1841 (vol. 5 U. S. Stat., p. 455). The 12th section provides that "all assignments and transfers of the right hereby secured prior to the issue of the patent shall be null and void;" and the 13th section provides that the preëmption claimant shall state on oath, before making the entry, "that he or she has not, directly or indirectly, made any assignment or contract in any way

or manner with any person or persons whatsoever by which the title which he or she might acquire from the government of the United States should enure in whole or in part to the benefit of any person except himself or herself."

The above provisions of the law have not been in any manner modified by subsequent acts. The homestead law ("an act to secure homesteads to actual settlers on the public domain", approved May 20, 1862, vol. 12 U.S. Stat., p. 392) contains similar provisions.

I have had some difficulty in procuring the services of an experienced surveyor to proceed to your Territory to initiate the public surveys, and establish the meridian and principal standard lines; but have now so far perfected my arrangements that I expect as early as January next the surveys will be commenced, and—if the Indians will permit—they will be prosecuted as rapidly and as extensively as the means placed at my disposal will permit.

I am respectfully your obedient servant,

John A. Clark.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
November 25, 1866.

Sir:—

I forward herewith for payment the account of Thomas A. Smith for six days' services as draughtsman in this office, amounting to $24.45.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A Clark,
Surveyor General.

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson,
Commissioner of the General Land office,
Washington, D.C.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
November 13, 1866.

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson,
Commissioner of the General Land office,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:— Parties in this district are taking the initiatory measures to perfect titles to mining claims under the provisions of the act of Congress entitled "an act granting the right of way to ditch and canal owners over the public lands, and for other purposes," approved July 26, 1866.

No instructions having been received from your office to govern my action under the law, I submit for your decision the following questions, viz:—

1.— In the absence of any Territorial statute or local rule or usage, what should be the lateral extent of the miner's claim?

2.— Is it contemplated by the third section of the act that the Surveyor General shall go upon the ground for the purpose of making the examination and survey?

3.— If he is not required to make the personal examination, upon what evidence would he be authorized to certify to "the number and description of the location, the value of the labor and improvements, and the character of the vein exposed?

4.— In cases where there are no connections with the public surveys, how can the Surveyor General designate "the number and description" of the survey with sufficient certainty to authorize the issuing of a patent to the claimant?

The issuing of patents to small isolated tracts of land, as contemplated by the act, in advance of the public surveys, must lead to endless confusion; and it would seem to be the better plan to extend the lines of the public surveys over the mineral lands as rapidly as the means at the disposal of the Department will justify, and, until this is done, to defer all action of the Surveyor General in the premises. Should this be the decision of the Department the estimates submitted for appropriations for Surveys in this district for the next fiscal year should be at least trebled, as it was not intended with the appropriations estimated for in my last annual report to survey the mineral lands, except where included within townships containing agricultural lands.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
November 21, 1866.

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson,
Commissioner of the General Land office,
Washington, D.C.

Sir.— The settlements are extending down the Pecos river to the vicinity of and perhaps encroaching upon the Navajo Indian reservation at the Bosque Redondo, and the settlers are anxious to have the lands surveyed and the boundaries of the reservation marked on the ground, so that it may be known what is public and what Indian land.

I write to inquire whether any portion of the appropriation for the survey of Indian lands is applicable to the survey of this reservation.

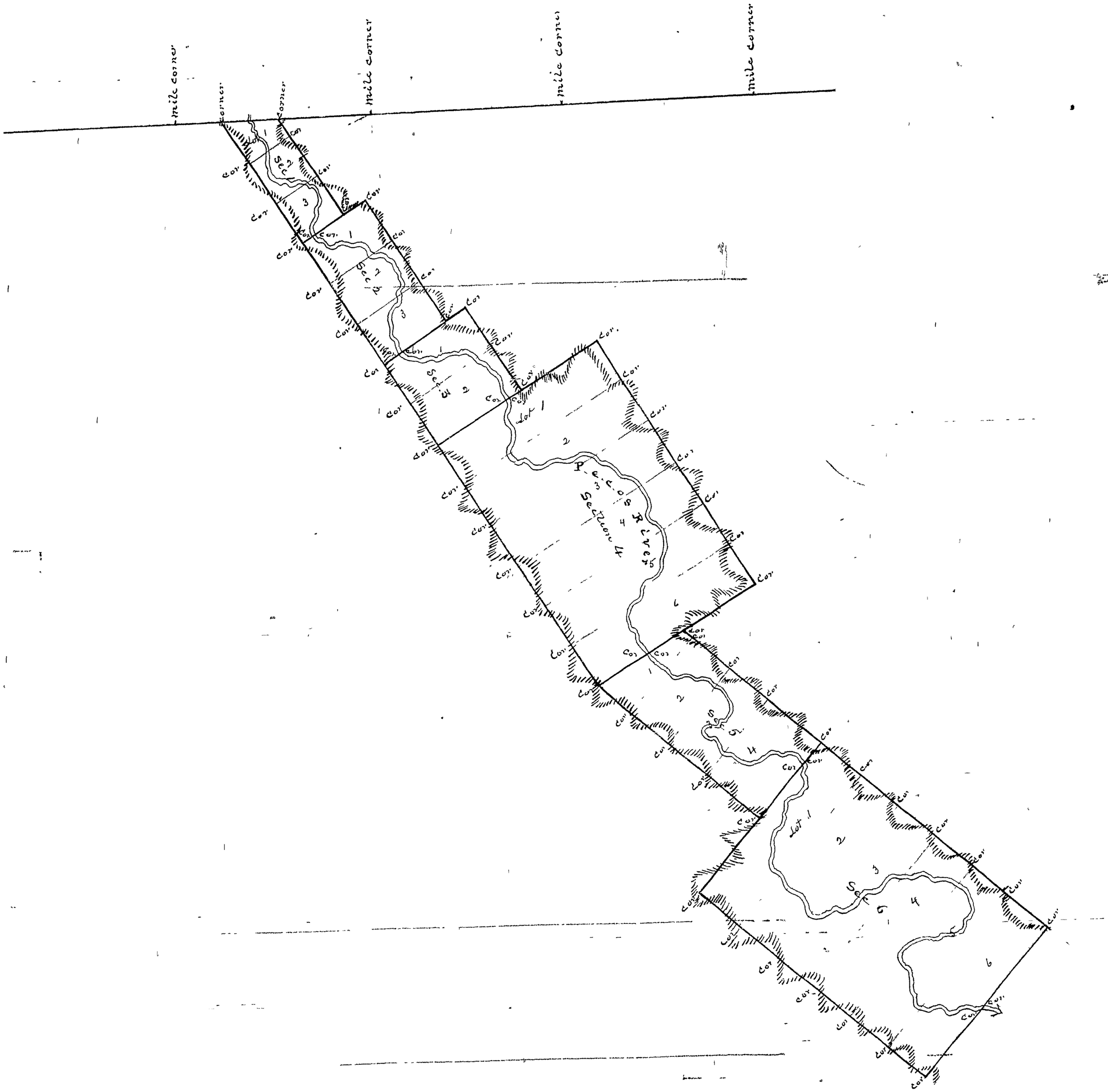
In anticipation of such survey I herewith enclose a plan with estimated cost. There being no cultivable land except that along the

Estimated cost of Survey of the
Navajo Indian Reservation

160	miles of exterior boundary lines	@ $15. per mi	$2400.00
120	miles of lines parallel to river	" $10. "	1200.
40	" cross lines	" "	400.
100	" meanders	" "	1000
		Total	$5000.

Scale 40 chains to one inch

Plan and Estimate for Survey of Navajo Indian Reservation New Mexico.



asking instructions in regard to extension of 3rd correction line west to include settle-

Pecos river—averaging less than one mile in width—I propose to run the exterior boundary lines; and, instead of subdividing the whole reserve, as has been done with other Indian reservations, I would run a line as nearly as practicable parallel with the river on either side, establishing corners at intervals of twenty chains (except at points where fractions are made by change of course or by difference in distance between parallel lines), and connect these lines by cross lines at every point where it is necessary to change the course, and also at each point where, to include the cultivable land, it is necessary to increase the distance between the parallel lines. Meander corners should also be established on the cross lines on the Pecos river, and the stream meandered, so that in those sections where the bottoms are a mile or more in width the contents of the lots divided by the river may be ascertained.

Should the survey be made according to this plan all of the cultivable land would be divided into small tracts, and may be allotted entire or in parcels to the Indian families, the mesas and plains would be held in common for pasturage, and the useless expense of surveying the uplands avoided.

I am respectfully your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
November 22, 1866

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington City, D.C.
Sir:

I enclose herewith a copy of the oath of Notty (N. F.) Thomas, which was omitted in the transcript (to which it belongs) of the fieldnotes of the survey of the San Pedro grant, forwarded to the General Land Office with my letter of the 23rd ultimo.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
John A Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
November 24, 1866.

Mr. H. C. Fellows, U.S. Dep. Surveyor,
Fort Stanton, N.M.

Sir:—I received yesterday your letter of 12th instant, asking instructions in regard to extension of 3rd correction line west to include settle-

ments of the Pularoso and — in case the settlements shall be found south of the line — how to run the township lines to include them.

By referring to the special instructions from this office accompanying your contract of 9th ult. you will find that you are fully instructed in regard to the extension of the 3rd correction line west, so as to include in surveys north of it these settlements. This is sufficient to authorize you to extend that line far enough west to include them in surveys projected north or closing on it from the south. Until the precise location of those settlements is ascertained by the extension of the 3rd correction line and the township lines as contemplated by the special instructions above referred to I deem it unnecessary to add to or change those instructions. If it shall be found that they lie south of that line when it shall be extended west as above you will report the fact to this office, and additional instructions will be given you if thought necessary: in the meantime you will proceed with the survey of the township and range lines north of 3rd correction line according to your present instructions.

I regret that you did not give me in your letter the position of the 2nd correction line near Fort Stanton and of the range line you are instructed to run south to serve as a guide meridian. How far is Fort Stanton north of the correction line? How far west of the fort is the corner from which you are to run the above range line? Will the three ranges of townships east of said range line include the settlements on the Bonito, Ruidoso and Hondo rivers?

I herewith enclose a section of the map of New Mexico, upon which I have to request you will locate Fort Stanton, the Rio Hondo and its branches, the range line as above, the Sierra Blanca range and its direction, the limit of timber toward the Pecos in the vicinity of the Rio Hondo, and such other objects as may have come under your observation which will influence me in directing future surveys.

Hoping to hear from you at an early day, I am,

Respectfully, yours,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
November 28, 1866.

Mr. Charles F. Shoemaker,
Fort Union, N. M.

Dear Sir. — I received by the mail yesterday your letter of 25th instant giving notice of a claim under the preemption laws to a tract of land adjoining the military reservation of Fort Union.

The land in question is claimed to be on the Mora town grant, and may also be covered by the claims of Gervacio Nolan and of John Scolly and others — the latter known as the "Junta" grant. If it is public land you are not required to file any notice in this office nor in the Land office until the land shall be surveyed under authority of the United States. Within three months after the plats of the surveys shall be returned to the Land office by the Surveyor General you must — in order to secure your preemption — file in that office a declaratory statement under oath

giving the date of your settlement, your intention to claim the land (describing it by legal subdivisions) under the pre-emption act, &c.

The lands in your neighborhood will not be surveyed by the Government until the private claims above mentioned shall have been surveyed and separated from the public domain.

I am respectfully and truly yours,
John A. Clark.

Surveyor-General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
November 29, 1866.

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson,
Commissioner of the General Land Office
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—I have to acknowledge the receipt today of your letter of 13th instant; and, in accordance with your instructions, I have deposited, to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States, on account of the appropriation for surveying the public lands and private land claims in New Mexico, with the designated Depositary at Santa Fé, the sum of seven hundred and three Dollars and ninety-one cents, and herewith enclose a certificate for the same, said sum being the amount due Wm. W. Griffin, U.S. Deputy Surveyor, for the survey of the private claims known as the San Pedro and Cañon del Agua, an approved account for which is also herewith enclosed.

I am respectfully your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor-General.

Surveyor-General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
December 5, 1866.

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson,
Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 13th ultimo, and notice your reply to my letter of 29th September, 1866, declining to expend more than ten thousand dollars in the extension of the public surveys in New Mexico during the present fiscal year.

As I have heretofore advised your office (see letter of Dec. 20, 1862, and annual report for 1862), the public surveys in New Mexico include a very small amount of cultivable land not covered by private claims. The tablelands and plains being destitute of water and for the most part also of timber, and for these reasons not susceptible of settlement or cultivation, constitute the bulk of the lands surveyed. The roving bands of Indians have prevented settlements beyond

the protection of military posts. For these reasons there has been no demand for the public lands heretofore surveyed in New Mexico.

The surveys which I propose to make are: The extension west of the 3rd and 4th correction lines south to the line between ranges 17 and 18 west, the survey of exterior lines of townships between those lines to include the valleys of the Mimbres and Gila rivers, and the subdivision of such townships in that section as shall be found to contain mines or cultivable land with water for irrigation; also, the extension east of the 2nd correction line south to the Pecos river, the exterior lines of townships to include the waters of the Rio Hondo and its branches and the Tularosa, and the subdivision of ten townships, including the settlements upon those streams. My estimates for the above are as follows:—

3rd correction line south, west	64 miles	at $15 per mile	$960.00
4th do. do. do. "	90 "	" "	1350.00
Exterior lines of townships 16 to 20, ranges 11 to 17, inclusive	398 "	12 "	4776.00
Subdivision of 14 townships	840 "	10 "	8400.00
2nd correction line south (now under contract) east	139.55 "	15 "	2095.30
3rd correction line (under contract)	36 "	15 "	540.00
Exterior lines of townships to include the Rio Hondo and branches and the Tularosa (partly under contract)	372 "	12 "	4464.00
Subdivision of ten townships	600 "	10 "	6000.00
Total			$28,585.30

It is estimated there are now at Pinos Altos and in the vicinity of Fort Bayard over five hundred miners and farmers, and on the waters of the Hondo and Tularosa more than one thousand settlers. There are no private claims to land under grants from Spain or Mexico in either of these sections. The people manifest an anxiety to secure the titles to the land upon which they have settled. It is the established policy of the Government to facilitate the settlement and sale of the public lands, and for these purposes to keep pace with the settlements in the extension of the public surveys. In view of the above facts I trust you will reconsider your decision in regard to the prosecution of the public surveys; and place at the disposal of this office the entire amount of the appropriations available for this service in New Mexico.

I enclose herewith a sketch of the proposed surveys, which, however, is subject to be changed upon receipt of reports from deputy surveyors, as I am not sufficiently advised of the precise locations of settlements and cultivable lands to determine the townships which should be surveyed.

I am, respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

John A. Clark,

Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
December 6, 1866.

S. R. Watrous, Esq.,
Barclay's Fort, N. M.

Dear Sir.—I received this evening your letter of 2nd instant requesting to be informed whether I "consider the land on the Mora river west of Cherry Valley and within the Junta grant (the Garrison Survey) as Government land and open for settlement?"

In reply I have to state that there is no evidence in this office that the owners of the grant to John Scolly and others (known as the Junta grant) have ever designated the five square leagues which, under the act of Congress, they have the right to select within the five leagues square originally claimed by them. No survey has been authorized by this office, and, until the reading of your letter, I was not aware that any survey had been made of the grant in question.

I certainly did not advise any one that the land "within the Junta grant" is is public land: on the contrary, when applied to for information upon the subject I have advised the parties that the land along the Mora river for a considerable distance below the junction of the Sapello is claimed under at least three Mexican grants, viz: the one under which you claim, the Mora town grant and the grant to Gervacio Nolan (the last not confirmed by Congress); but the boundaries of neither of these claims having been ascertained, I could not decide as to the ownership of any of the lands in that region; that of the land upon which they were settled or proposed to settle is Government land their rights would be secure if they continued in the actual occupancy until the surveys should be made by Government, and then file in the land office their proofs of preëmption and make payment as required by law

Respectfully your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, N. Mexico, Dec. 15, 1866.

Mr. William H. Pierce, U.S. Deputy Surveyor.

Sir.—I hand you herewith a copy of the "Manual of Instructions to regulate the Field Operations of Deputy Surveyors," by which you will be governed in the execution of the surveys under your contract with this office of this date

A monument erected by the United St. s and Mexican boundary commission upon the summit of a hill on the south side of the Gila river immediately opposite the mouth of the Salado river, has been selected as the point from which to run the Principal Meridian north and south and the Base Line east and west. This monument is of stone, circular in form, about eight feet in diameter at the base, four feet at the top, and about eight feet high, in which is planted a post four inches in diameter, project-

ing about six feet above the monument, upon which is marked "United States and Mexican Boundary Survey, 1851. This monument erected in 1851 to mark the junction of the Gila and Salt rivers. A.R. Gray, Ufs. Surveyor." You will plant stones for witness corners N. 45° E., S. 45° E., S. 45° W. and N. 45° W., respectively fifty links distant from the centre of the monument, and mark the side of each stone facing the monument with the section, township and range in which they shall respectively stand, and also take the bearing and distance to witness trees — if any within a reasonable distance — and mark them in like manner, and also mark the post in said monument as and for a township corner.

Having thus perpetuated the initial corner you will proceed to survey and establish the Meridian — which will be known as the "Gila and Salt River Meridian" — Base, Correction and Exterior Lines of townships as specified in your contract. In case you shall find that the position of the town of Prescott is not correctly laid down upon the accompanying diagram you are authorized — in lieu of the townships mentioned in your contract — to run the exterior lines of such townships as shall include said town and the cultivable land in that vicinity.

You will return with your fieldnotes a connected diagram of your surveys, and give thereon the streams, the location of valleys of arable land, mines, towns, settlements, ranges of mountains, &c., and in your fieldnotes specify as far as practicable the townships containing cultivable land, mines, settlements, timber, &c.

You are requested to communicate with this office from time to time as you may have opportunity the result of your observations regarding the capabilities for settlement, the mines, timber, &c., of the district over which your surveys will extend.

Respectfully your obedient servant,
John A. Clark, Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico December 15, 1866.

Colonel Charles S. Lovell, U.S.A.,
Commanding District of Arizona,
Tucson, Arizona.

Colonel. — The bearer, W.H. Pierce, U.S. Deputy Surveyor, goes to Arizona under instructions from this office to survey and establish the principal meridian from a point on the Gila river opposite the mouth of the Salado north ninety-six miles, the Base line east from above initial point forty-two miles, three standard parallels from the meridian east to the San Francisco river and west forty-two miles, and also the exterior lines of sixteen townships in the neighborhood of Prescott. In the execution of these surveys Mr. Pierce will be exposed to the hostilities of the Indians, and I have to request that you will give him such military protection in the field as the condition of the country may require. I commend Mr. Pierce personally to your kind consideration.

I am respectfully your obedient servant,
John A. Clark, Sur. General New Mexico & Arizona

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico, December 17, 1866.

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson, Commissioner General Land Office.
Washington, D.C.

Sir.— On the 15th inst. I entered into a contract with William H. Pierce for the survey, in Arizona, of portions of the Base, Principal Meridian and three Standard Parallel and of certain Exterior Township Lines, amounting in the aggregate to not exceeding $7500, as shown by the contract herewith transmitted for your approval. I forward also a copy of the instructions furnished Mr. Pierce, and also of the diagram showing the surveys contemplated in the contract.

Mr. Pierce left this morning for the field of his operations via Fort Selden, Tucson and the Pima Villages. I have given him an official letter to Colonel Lovell, commanding District of Arizona, requesting him to furnish him (Mr P.) with a military escort sufficient for his protection against the hostile Indians of the country while engaged in the prosecution of his work.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,
John A. Clark, Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, N. Mexico, Dec 17, 1866.

Hon. R. W. Taylor, First Comptroller of the Treasury.
Washington, D.C.

Sir.— I have the honor to enclose herewith for the use of your office a contract executed on the 15th instant for public surveys in this District.

Respectfully your obt. Servant,
John A. Clark, Sur. Gen. N. Mexico & Ariz.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, N. Mexico, December 19, 1866.

Brevet Maj. Genl James H. Carleton, Commanding Dist. N. Mexico,
Santa Fé, New Mexico.

General.— Mr. Isaac O. Stuck, U.S. Deputy Surveyor, will leave Santa Fé about the 26th inst. under instructions from this office to survey and establish the fourth standard parallel south from a point near Fort Selden west to a point near the meridian of old fort McLean, the third standard parallel from the base of the first range of mountains west of the Rio Grande west to a point about ten miles north west of Pinos Altos, and the exterior lines of fifteen townships between said standard parallels, to include fort Bayard and the town of Pinos Altos. The region of country included within these contemplated surveys is infested by hostile Apache Indians, and Mr. Stuck cannot safely proceed to the field without military protection. I have therefore to request that you will order the commanding officers at forts Selden, Cummings and Bayard to furnish him with a military escort sufficient for the protection of himself and party in the execution of the above surveys.

I am respectfully your obedient servant,
John A. Clark, Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fe, New Mexico,
December 20, 1866.

Mr. Isaac C. Stuck, U. S. Deputy Surveyor.

Sir:— In the execution of the surveys under your contract with this office of this date you will be governed strictly by the general instructions contained in the "Manual of Instructions to regulate the Field Operations of Deputy Surveyors," of 1855, and the addition thereto of June 1, 1864, a printed copy of which is herewith furnished you.

In the perpetuation of corners you are directed in all cases when practicable to plant stones, and at township corners, in the absence of bearing or witness trees, to mark upon the sides of such corner stone the number of the range, township and section which they respectively face.

You are also directed to give a separate and full description of the character of each township the exterior lines of which you shall run, noting the timber, mines, water and cultivable lands, their character and extent, so far as your observations will enable you, and to return to this office with the notes a connected diagram of your work, upon which you will lay down as nearly as practicable from your observations and measurements the streams, roads, mines, mountains, settlements, &c.

On all lines to be surveyed by you, you will be careful to note the mineral lands as distinguished from agricultural lands.

You are requested also to observe and note remarkable objects outside and in the vicinity of your surveys, viz: the location of mountains, giving their extent and direction, settlements, springs, streams and watering places, and communicate the result of your observations as you may have opportunity during the progress of your work.

Respectfully your obedient servant,
John A. Clark, Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office, Santa Fe, New Mexico, December 20, 1866

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson, Commissioner of the General Land office,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:— I have the honor to transmit herewith for your approval a contract of this date for public surveys in New Mexico, entered into with Isaac C. Stuck, U.S. Deputy Surveyor. I also enclose a copy of the special instructions issued to Mr. Stuck and copy of the diagram of his work.

I am respectfully your obedient servant,
John A. Clark, Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
December 20, 1866.

Hon. R. W. Taylor, First Comptroller of the Treasury,
Washington, D.C.

Sir — I have the honor to transmit herewith for your information a contract for public surveys in New Mexico entered into this day with Isaac C. Stucks, U.S. Deputy Surveyor.

I am respectfully your obedient servant,
John A Clark, Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
December 21, 1866.

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson, Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington, D.C.

Sir — I have to acknowledge the receipt today of your letter of 24th ultimo covering diagrams of the northern and western boundary lines of Texas.

I am respectfully your obedient servant,
John A Clark, Surveyor General

Surveyor General's Office,
Santa Fé, New Mexico,
December 27, 1866.

Mr. H. C. Fellows, U.S. Dep. Surveyor,
Fort Stanton, N.M.

Sir — I received by mail yesterday your letter of 12th instant, and in separate packages a diagram with your account, and two books of fieldnotes of the survey of second correction line South.

I have examined the fieldnotes, and notice the following objections to their approval:—

1st. You report having measured the line by triangulation from the 1/4 section corner on south boundary of section 35, township 18 South, range 10 East, to the summit of the Sierra Blanca, a distance of six miles 31.35 chains, and thence down the eastern declivity of the mountain two miles 21.74 chains, but do not give the altitude of the summit above either the quarter section corner where you ceased to measure with the chain or the point where you resumed the chaining: and so I am left to infer that you have given in your notes the length of the line parallel with the face of the mountain — from the base to the summit — and not the horizontal distance between the two points given above. In measuring lines in the public surveys triangulation should never be resorted to except in cases where it is impracticable

to measure with a chain, and then only for short distances and when the points between which the triangulation is made are nearly on a level with each other; and in all cases the base should be at least one fourth as great as the distance to be measured. It was anticipated that you would have some difficulty in carrying the line across the Sierra Blanca, and it was suggested to you before going to the field that if you should encounter precipices or other insurmountable objects you should make right angle offsets, or run by a traverse around such obstacles, or for short distances across rocky cañons, by triangulation.

The process by which you reached the summit and descended the Sierra Blanca is not approved. You are therefore directed to return to the quarter section corner on the south boundary of section 35, township 10 south, range 10 east, and survey and measure the correction line, in the manner above suggested, east to the corner established by you for the 1/4 section corner on south boundary of section 32, township 10 south, range 12 east, establishing the proper township, section and quarter section corners on the line when practicable — and if not practicable state the reasons in your notes for not doing so.

If you find the distance between the points named does not agree with that found by triangulation as reported or that the line is not in its true position, you will proceed to correct the line east from the last abovenamed point or from the corner to be established in place thereof, and also any other lines based upon it.

2nd.— You report also that you measured the line by one triangulation from the 1/4 section corner on south boundary of section 32, township 10 south, range 12 east, east to point 19.35 chains east of 1/4 section corner established by you on south boundary of section 31, township 10 south, range 13 east — a distance of three miles 19 35 chains. In this case you do not give the base or angle, and therefore furnish no means by which the accuracy of the triangulation can be tested. If the line for the above distance runs along the side of a cañon so rocky and precipitous that measuring with the chain was impracticable it was your duty to have made an offset north or south, and so have continued the survey, returning to the true line as you advanced at the proper point to for establishing thereon the corners, or, opposite to inaccessible places for corners, establishing witness corners — and this you are required now to do. If you find that measurement with the chain does not agree with that by triangulation as reported you will make the proper corrections as above directed.

3rd.— You have given no statement of your operations in finding and identifying the beginning corner. It was anticipated that you would not readily find this corner — that to do so you would be obliged to trace the second correction line east from the Meridian, and probably the Meridian also from the crossing of the Rio Grande. This deficiency should be supplied.

4th.— You give no sufficient reason why the chainmen Davis & Toombs and the axeman Irvine did not certify to the notes as required by law. Procure

this certificate if possible; and if you fail to do so report fully the reasons. Your compasman has not certified to the notes of that part of the line which the above parties assisted to survey: send his certificate with the others. But one of the books is certified. Each book of notes should be signed and certified by the assistants.

5th.— In establishing and describing corners you have in many instances ignored the general instructions. A stone of the prescribed dimensions for a corner should not be set in a mound of earth or stones, but planted firmly in the ground. No mound in such case is required— but at township corners if stones are convenient a small mound of stones should be raised along side the corner stone. When but one witness tree is taken at a corner it should in all cases be stated that there is no other tree convenient, i. e. within 200 links of the corner.— See printed instructions, to which in relation to the above and all other matters connected with your surveys and returns, to the special instructions from this office accompanying your contract, and to your obligations thereunder, I have to call your careful attention.

I regret to be obliged to make the above objections to your fieldnotes; they are all such as, with your experience in surveying public lands, should have been avoided. I retain the notes with your account until I hear further from you

I am very respectfully your obedient servant,
John A. Clark,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office
Santa Fé New Mexico
January 1. 1867

Hon. Joseph S. Wilson
Commr. of the General Land Office
Washington D.C.

Sir

I have the honor to transmit herewith for settlement the approved salary and incidental expense accounts of this office for the quarter ending yesterday

Respectfully your obt. svt.
John A. Clark
Surveyor General